



Council of the
European Union

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NOTE

From:	Danish delegation
To:	Working Party on Frontiers/Mixed Committee (EU-Iceland/Liechtenstein/Norway/Switzerland)
No. prev. doc.:	7499/16 FRONT 156 COMIX 256
Subject:	Prolongation of the temporary reintroduction of border controls at the Danish internal borders in accordance with Articles 25 and 26 of Regulation (EU) 2016/399 on a Union Code on the rules governing the movement of persons across borders (Schengen Borders Code)

Delegations will find attached a copy of a letter received by the General Secretariat of the Council on 2 May 2016, concerning the prolongation of the temporary reintroduction of borders controls by Denmark at its internal borders until 2 June 2016.



Dear colleagues,

In accordance with Regulation (EU) No 1051/2013 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 22 October 2013 amending Regulation (EC) No. 562/2006 of the European Parliament and the Council of 15 March 2006 establishing a Community Code on the rules of governing the movement of persons across borders (Schengen Border Code), the Danish Government has today notified the Commission that the Danish Government has decided to prolong the border control at the Danish internal borders until 2 June 2016.

The decision to temporarily reintroduce border control at the Danish internal borders was made due to the measures set in place by our neighbouring countries and particularly the measures set in place by Sweden. As a consequence of these measures, Denmark is faced with a serious risk to public order and internal security because a very large number of illegal immigrants might be stranded in the Copenhagen area within a short period of time.

On 7 April 2016, the Swedish Government decided to prolong the border control at the Swedish internal borders until 8 May 2016. Furthermore, the Swedish regulation obliging carriers to ensure that persons transported into Sweden are in possession of identity documents is still in force.

The numbers of asylum seekers in Europe are still historically high, and according to Frontex, there is an ongoing pressure on Europe's external borders. Our neighboring countries to the North have prolonged their temporary border controls and still have ID-controls at their internal borders in order to reduce the numbers of asylum seekers. These measures have – as mentioned before – left Denmark with a serious risk to public policy and internal security if the Danish border control were to be lifted at this point.

Moreover, there are still uncertainties regarding the vast number of refugees and migrants who are now in Europe.

On this background, the Danish Government has today decided to prolong the border control at the Danish internal borders until 2 June 2016.

The border control may extend to all internal borders, including land-, sea- and air borders, whereby the specific border sections and border crossing points are determined by the Danish Police. The border control will, however, remain focused on the ferries arriving from Germany and the land border between Denmark and Germany. The scope of the control will remain limited to what is strictly necessary to respond to the threat to public policy and internal security.

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Asyl og Visum
Slotsholmsgade 10
DK-1216 Copenhagen K
Denmark

Phone +45 6198 4000
Email uibm@uibm.dk
Website www.uibm.dk

CVR no. 36977191

Case no. 2015 - 1315
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Today's decision to prolong the border control was made in accordance with Article 23 and 24 of Regulation (EU) No 1051/2013 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 22 October 2013 amending Regulation (EC) No. 562/2006 of the European Parliament and the Council of 15 March 2006 establishing a Community Code on the rules of governing the movement of persons across borders (Schengen Border Code).

Yours sincerely,

Inger Støjberg

DG D