



Council of the
European Union

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NOTE

From:	Spanish delegation
To:	Working Party on Frontiers/Mixed Committee (EU-Iceland/Liechtenstein/Norway/Switzerland)
No. prev. doc.:	8216/20
Subject:	Prolongation of the temporary reintroduction of border controls at the Spanish internal borders in accordance with 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 8 June 2020 regarding the prolongation of the temporary reintroduction of border controls by Spain at the internal air and sea borders between 7 and 21 June 2020.

E-MAIL



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DEL INTERIOR

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Fernando Grande-Marlaska Gómez
MINISTRO

*Mr Margaritis Schinas
Vice-President of the
European Commission*

*Ms Ylva Johansson
Commissioner for Home Affairs
European Commission*

*Mr Jeppe Tranholm-Mikkelsen
Secretary-General of the Council of the European Union*

*Mr David Maria Sassoli
President of the European Parliament*

*The Ministers of Interior of the
EU Member States and Schengen Associated Countries*

Madrid, June 6th, 2020

Dear Colleagues:

On March 17th, Spain reintroduced controls at its internal land borders in order to support the measures taken inside its territory by the state of alarm to limit the spreading of COVID-19. On May 15th, controls at the internal air and sea borders were also reintroduced. These controls have been successively prolonged until 00:00, June 7th, linked to the duration of the state of alarm by Order SND/439/2020 of the Minister of Health, of May 23th.

In the de-escalation process initiated by Spain, free travel between provinces is still not allowed, and the state of alarm will be prolonged until 00:00, June 21st, to support the remaining restrictions. Therefore, controls temporarily reintroduced at the internal air, sea and land borders are automatically prolonged until that date. This measure is considered proportionate regarding the internal situation and the restrictions in force throughout the Schengen Area, including our closest neighbours, France and Portugal, which, at this point in time, also maintain controls at our common land borders.

The categories of persons allowed to cross the internal borders remain unchanged and are:



- Spanish citizens.
- Residents in Spain.
- Residents in other Member States or Schengen Associated States going to their residence.
- Cross border workers.
- Healthcare and elderly care professionals going to their work.
- Entries for other work reasons, including seasonal workers, are allowed if documentary evidence can be provided.
- Those able to prove with documents being subject to force majeure or state of necessity.
- Staff of diplomatic missions, consular offices or international organizations seated in Spain, accredited as such and travelling in the scope of their official mission.
- Transport of goods, including maritime and air crews, if an onward journey is guaranteed.

By the same procedure, and for the same duration, the existing quarantine of 14 days for all persons entering the Spanish territory is maintained. Cross border workers, transport workers, crew members and health workers are excluded if they have not been in contact with persons diagnosed with COVID-19.

Please rest assured that the scope and duration of the internal border checks, which should be now coming close to an end, will be limited to what is strictly necessary and that we will continue to carefully monitor and assess the evolution of the situation, as well as the impact and proportionality of measures taken, in order to lift them as soon as possible and in agreement with our closest neighbours.

Yours sincerely,

Fernando Grande-Marlaska Gómez