

The European Commission



Ministry of Immigration,  
Integration and Housing

Dear Commissioner Avramopoulos,

On 12 May 2016, the Council of the European Union adopted a Council Implementing Decision setting out a Recommendation for temporary internal border control in exceptional circumstances putting the overall functioning of the Schengen area at risk.

On 1 June 2016, pursuant to Article 29 (2) of Regulation (EU) 2016/399 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 9 March 2016 on a Union Code on the rules governing the movement of persons across borders (Schengen Borders Code) (codification), the Danish Government notified to the Commission, the Parliament and the other Member States, that Denmark would implement the recommendation set out in the Implementing Decision, which allows temporary border checks at the Danish ports with ferry connections to Germany and at the Danish-German land border for a maximum period of six months, starting from the day of the adoption of the Decision by the Council.

Since 1 June 2016, there has been no change in the police efforts in the border areas. Thus, the border controls consist of spot checks based on continuous observation of traffic across the border. The controls are targeted towards passengers on the ferries to Rødby, Gedser and Rønne and towards persons and vehicles crossing the Danish-German border in Southern Jutland. The situation is monitored closely, and the control effort is adjusted accordingly to ensure public order and internal security.

There has not been registered a change in the normal traffic patterns that can be directly attributed to the temporary border controls.

The current border control against Germany is on this background deemed to be proportionate with regards to scope, frequency, location and time, and is limited to what is strictly necessary to respond to the serious threat and to safeguard public policy and internal security in Denmark.

The Danish Government considers at this stage that there are no grounds for phasing out or scaling down the border controls against Germany.

Yours sincerely,

  
Inger Støjberg

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