

Danish Minister for Immigration and Integration



Ministry of Immigration  
and Integration

Dear Mr. Tranholm-Mikkelsen,

On 11 May 2017, the Council adopted an Implementing Decision setting out a recommendation allowing the continuation of temporary border control until 12 November 2017 on the basis of Article 29 of Regulation (EU) 2016/339 of 9 March 2016 (Schengen Borders Code). According to the Implementing Decision, border controls should be targeted and limited in scope, frequency, location and time, to what is strictly necessary to respond to the serious threat and to safeguard public policy and internal security.

Please find below information on the results of the checks carried out at the Danish-German border since my letter of 20 October 2017 and until 12 November 2017 on the implementation by Denmark of the Council's Implementing Decision.

In the period from 9 October to 12 November 2017, a total number of 281,636 persons have been checked at the Danish ports with ferry connections to Germany or at the Danish-German land border. 221 persons have been refused entry, and 274 persons have applied for asylum, of which 68 applications have been submitted in the police districts closest to the border. Furthermore, in the period from 9 October to 12 November 2017, the Danish Immigration Service has made a total number of 126 requests according to the Dublin Regulation to other Member States as well as 100 decisions to transfer an asylum seeker to another Member State based on acceptance of responsibility from the Member State. The numbers broken down per week are:

Week	Number of persons checked	Number of refusals of entry	Number of asylum requests	Number of asylum requests in border area	Dublin requests	Dublin decisions
41	55,617	34	52	13	36	22
42	70,566	37	72	12	20	21
43	58,924	47	46	12	28	34
44	50,242	54	45	14	25	12
45	46,287	49	59	17	17	11

In this regard, I can inform you that there has not been registered a change in the normal traffic patterns that can be directly attributed to the temporary border

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controls until 12 November 2017. In addition, the Danish Ministry of Industry, Business and Financial Affairs has informed the Ministry of Immigration and Integration that according to Scandlines – the company that operates the Rødby-Puttgarden and Gedser-Rostock ferry lines between Germany and the islands Lolland and Falster – the border controls in both Rødby and Gedser have run smoothly without any negative economic or operational impact.

The Danish border controls have consisted of spot checks based on continuous observation of traffic across the border. Only some vehicles have been examined based on a specific assessment. The assessment has been made on the basis of analyses, intelligence and the experience of the border guards. These analyses have been put into operation via specific profiles of vehicles with possible irregular migrants and profiles of human smugglers and traffickers.

As you are aware, the Danish Government has decided, in accordance with the provisions in Article 25 and 27 of the Schengen Borders Code to temporarily reintroduce border controls at the internal borders with Germany as from 12 November 2017 due to the severe threat to our internal security. In this context, the Danish authorities have considered that alternative measures such as e.g. intensified police checks in the border areas would not achieve the same effect.

The internal border checks will continue to be limited in scope to what is strictly necessary, carried out in a targeted manner as spot checks based on risk assessments, and organised with only limited inconveniences for the people travelling from Germany to Denmark.

Yours sincerely,



Inger Støjberg