

## EUROPEAN COMMISSION DIRECTORATE-GENERAL MIGRATION and HOME AFFAIRS

The Director-General

Brussels, 22 December 2017

H.E. Mr. Kim JØRGENSEN Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary

Permanent Representation of Denmark to the European Union

Rue d'Arlon 73, 1040 Brussels, Belgium

Your Excellency,

Thank you for your reply of 10 November 2017 to my letter of 23 October in which you provide additional information concerning the temporary reintroduction of border controls as carried out at the internal border with Germany as of 12 November 2017 for 6 months<sup>1</sup>.

I appreciate your commitment to the goal, in line with the discussions at the European Council on 19 October 2017, of getting back to an area without internal border controls as soon as possible, while taking proportionate security interests of Member States fully into account.

Thank you for the additional clarifications provided and in particular for the insights shared from the analysis of the Danish Security and Intelligence Service and for the update of the data concerning refusals of entry. I also appreciate your clarifications concerning the cooperation with Germany and the feedback from the Ministry of Industry, Business and Financial Affairs concerning the economic and operational impacts of the controls.

As signalled at the last JHA Council, we would like to request for some additional information and in particular further clarifications with regard to the following issues:

- 1. <u>Terrorist threats</u>: Can you please provide more information on the analysis of the Danish Security and Intelligence Service and in particular how often such analysis is carried out?
- 2. <u>Scope of the controls</u>: How do the presented figures in relation to refusals of entry justify the choice of the border section subject to re-introduced internal border

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Notification of 12 October 2017.

controls? In what circumstances would you consider it necessary to extend the current controls to other sections of the internal borders?

3. Alternative measures: I would like to reiterate the request for sharing with us your views concerning the possibility of increasing the use of police checks, including in the borders area, as an alternative to reintroduced borders checks. I would be also interested to hear from you about the results of police checks carried out in response to the same threats as those underpinning the decision on the temporary reintroduction of border controls.

I would like also to inform you that the Commission has addressed similar letters to some of the other Schengen Member States currently carrying out border controls after the expiry of the Council Recommendation 9040/17 of 11 May 2017.

I would appreciate if you could provide the requested clarifications by 20 January 2018, in order to allow for the Commission to conclude its assessment early next year.

Yours faithfully,

Matthias RUETE *[e-Signed by delegation* by Laurent MUSCHEL]