



Commissioner Avramopoulos

Date: 10 October 2019

Dear Commissioner Avramopoulos,

Please be informed that the Danish Government, in accordance with the provisions in Article 25 and 27 of Regulation (EU) 2016/399 of 9 March 2016 (Schengen Borders Code), has decided to temporarily reintroduce border controls at the internal borders. The reintroduction of border control at the Danish internal borders will be carried out for 6 months as from 12 November 2019.

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 National Police. The border control will initially focus on the Danish-German land border, the Danish-Swedish land border (Øresundsforbindelsen) and the Danish ports with ferry connection to Germany or Sweden.

The persistent and significant threat to our public order and internal security caused by militant Islamists who are able to exploit the free mobility within the Schengen area continues to be a grave concern for the Danish Government.

It is the assessment of the Center for Terror Analysis (CTA) under the Danish Security and Intelligence Service that militant Islamist groups may still exploit refugee and migrant routes to bring persons to Europe to commit acts of terrorism in Europe.

CTA assesses that there may be individuals among the refugees and migrants who have already arrived in Europe and Denmark who can pose a threat either because of a direct link to militant Islamist groups abroad or due to radicalisation. In addition, there remains a threat from foreign fighters returning from Syria/Iraq and from radicalised individuals in neighbouring states.

Furthermore, the threat from organised criminals in Sweden towards Denmark raises serious concern. The Danish National Police assesses that in the

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summer of 2019 organised criminals from Sweden have travelled to Denmark to commit two serious offences in Denmark, inter alia an explosion aimed at a Government building.

Against this backdrop and after careful consideration, the Danish Government considers the temporary internal border controls as a necessary and effective measure to address these threats to the public order and internal security.

Please rest assured that the scope of the internal border checks will continue to be limited to what is strictly necessary to respond to the threat to our public order and internal security. Furthermore, the internal border checks will continue to be organised in a manner, which ensures that obstacles to the free movement of persons and goods are kept to an absolute minimum.

In this context, the Danish Police authorities will carry out the temporary border controls close cooperation with its German and Swedish counterparts.

In accordance with the Schengen Borders Code, the Danish Government will notify the other Member States about this decision.

Yours sincerely,

Nick Hækkerup