

His Excellency Mr Margaritis Schinas
Vice-President of the European Commission
1049 Brussels, Belgium

Her Excellency Ms Ylva Johansson European Commissioner for Home Affairs 1049 Brussels, Belgium

Her Excellency Ms Thérèse Blanchet Secretary-General of the Council of the European Union and European Council 1049 Brussels, Belgium

Her Excellency Ms Roberta Metsola President of the European Parliament 1049 Brussels, Belgium

Home Affairs Ministers of the EU and Schengen states

The Hague, 11 November 2024

Your Excellencies, Dear Colleagues,

I am writing to inform you that the Netherlands is to reintroduce internal border controls at its land borders with Germany and Belgium. This will be done on the basis of Article 25a (4) and (5) of the Schengen Borders Code, and commence on 9 December 2024 at 00:00, lasting until 8 June 2025 at 00:00. Please find attached the notification that I am submitting with this letter.

For years, the Netherlands has been confronted with the problematic consequences of a large irregular migration influx, migrant smuggling, and substantial secondary migration flows. This has caused high and cumulative pressure on the existing migration system and in particular on reception capacity at local level. At the same time, the number of incidents (including criminal incidents) at reception centres has increased. The Dutch government is taking all possible measures to prevent further disruption to the migration system. This has led to its decision to temporarily reintroduce internal border controls.



The temporary border checks will be in accordance with the Schengen Borders Code and will not be conducted systematically, but in a targeted, situation-specific and risk- and intelligence-based manner. That is why I have decided not to designate specific border crossing points at which the checks will take place. The Royal Netherlands Marechaussee (RNML) will cooperate closely with its counterparts in neighbouring Member States. In addition, measures will be taken to limit the impact on cross-border traffic and movement of goods.

Yours sincerely,

Marjolein Fa

Minister of Asylum and Migration