

Question for written answer E-008749/2016
to the Commission
Rule 130
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Subject: Extension of controls at internal borders and launch of the European Border Guard

On 11 November 2016, the Council adopted an implementing decision incorporating a recommendation which authorises extensions of temporary controls at the internal borders in exceptional circumstances. Germany, Austria, Denmark, Sweden and Norway have therefore had their right to institute controls at some of their borders extended for a further three months. Those five countries had already had that right extended by six months in May 2016.

The communication of 25 October 2016 from the Commission indicates that the Commission is making the extension conditional on the launch of operations by the European Border Guard. According to the communication from the Commission, the European Border Guard will be fully operational only in January 2017, i.e. in three months' time.

1. What guarantees can the Commission give that the European Border Guard will be fully operational by January 2017?
2. If this new European body proves to be insufficiently operational in January 2017, would the Commission be inclined to recommend a fresh extension of temporary controls at the internal borders?