

**Question for written answer E-003533/2017  
to the Commission**

Rule 130

**Marie-Christine Arnautu (ENF)**

Subject: The extension of internal border controls by some Member States

On 2 May 2017, the Commission declared its ambition to put a definitive end to the current derogations authorising the Member States within the Schengen area to temporarily re-establish internal border controls. Denmark, Germany, Austria, Sweden and Norway must end their border controls in November 2017.

However, some Member States are considering ignoring the Commission's recommendations and are sceptical of the EU's ability to properly control its external borders.

This led the Danish Prime Minister to declare that 'if, by some miracle, the EU regains control of its external borders, we will assess the situation' and that 'as long as there is no control over the EU's external borders, we will need to retain controls at our borders'.

The Austrian Minister of Defence, Hans Peter Doskozil, said 'there is an urgent need to amend the law and to ensure that these vital controls are maintained'. The Austrian Minister of Foreign Affairs added that 'if border controls are necessary due to the numbers of illegal immigrants, then we must stop hiding behind these bureaucratic rules and make these controls possible'.

Does the Commission intend to respect the decisions of these countries or to punish them?