

Question for written answer P-012921/2015
to the Commission
Rule 130
Bodil Valero (Verts/ALE)

Subject: Reintroduction of border checks by Schengen states

Germany recently reintroduced border checks on individuals at its border with Austria, as a response to the refugee flows over its borders. Several other countries are taking similar measures.

Article 25(1) of the Schengen Borders Code (SBC) provides that Member States may reintroduce border controls, if it is necessary for 'public policy or internal security' reasons.

1. Do the current refugee influxes over Schengen Member States' borders qualify as a public policy or are they an internal security matter?

States reintroducing border controls have to notify the Commission.

2. Which states have done so and what kind of information have the states provided?

According to Recital 15 of the SBC, any such measure should be exceptional and proportionate. Moreover, Recital 5 of Regulation (EU) No 1051/2013 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 22 October 2013 amending Regulation (EC) No 562/2006 in order to provide for common rules on the temporary reintroduction of border control at internal borders in exceptional circumstances stipulates that migration and the crossing of external borders by a large number of third-country nationals should not, per se, be considered a threat to public policy or internal security.

3. How does the Commission follow up on the implementation of these provisions?