

**Question for written answer P-013409/2015
to the Commission**
Rule 130
Helga Stevens (ECR)

Subject: Temporary reintroduction of border controls at internal borders

In the event of a serious threat to public policy or internal security, an EU Member State may reintroduce border controls at its internal borders for 30 days pursuant to Articles 23 et seq. of the Schengen Borders Code. If a longer period is needed, the EU Member State may always prolong border controls for periods not exceeding 30 days at a time. The scope and duration of these controls must not exceed what is strictly necessary to respond to the serious threat.

It is not clear how these rules should be applied in the event of a massive influx of immigrants due to inadequacies in the guarding of the external borders. The fact that IS fighters and/or people smugglers (terrorism/organised crime) have already been found among asylum-seekers suggests that borders may be temporarily reinstated on this legal basis.

1. Can an EU Member State define an uncontrolled influx of migrants as a serious threat, and under what circumstances?
2. Can an EU Member State continue to prolong the 30-day period indefinitely so long as the uncontrolled influx continues, given that the duration of controls is restricted to the period strictly necessary?
3. Can an EU Member State take these measures autonomously, or is it required to account for its actions and/or to seek authorisation from the Council, the Commission, the European Parliament or any other body?