



Plenary sitting

B9-0463/2022

12.10.2022

MOTION FOR A RESOLUTION

to wind up the debate on the statements by the Council and the Commission

pursuant to Rule 132(2) of the Rules of Procedure

on the accession of Romania and Bulgaria to the Schengen area
(2022/2852(RSP))

Jean-Paul Garraud, Nicolaus Fest
on behalf of the ID Group

**European Parliament resolution on the accession of Romania and Bulgaria to the Schengen area
(2022/2852(RSP))**

The European Parliament,

- having regard to Article 77(2) of the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union (TFEU), establishing ‘the absence of any controls on persons, whatever their nationality, when crossing internal borders’,
 - having regard to Article 21(1) TFEU, according to which every citizen of the Union has the right to move and reside freely within the territory of the Member States,
 - having regard to the provisions of the Schengen Agreement of 14 June 1985,
 - having regard to the Commission communication of 24 May 2022 entitled ‘State of Schengen Report 2022’ (COM(2022)0301),
 - having regard to Rule 132(2) of its Rules of Procedure,
- A. whereas the establishment of an area of free movement within the Schengen area means that any third-country national or Member State citizen, having entered the territory of a Member State, can cross the borders into other Member States without undergoing checks;
- B. whereas the key requisites for the proper functioning of the area without internal border controls are mutual trust among the Member States coupled with the strict control of the external borders;
- C. whereas the enlargement of this area should be executed in conjunction with an increase in the human and material resources of the European Border and Coast Guard Agency (Frontex), enabling it to fully carry out its mandate to control the Union’s external borders;
- D. whereas, however, almost 2 million people illegally crossed the Union’s external borders in 2015; whereas Greece has blocked the entry of at least 150 000 migrants at its land and sea borders since the beginning of 2022; whereas the daily news in Europe demonstrates the major link between immigration and social and security threats; whereas the Union is not considering the possibility of suspending the payment of European funds to countries that refuse to take back their nationals who have entered or stayed in the Union illegally or those who have been deprived of the right to asylum;
- E. whereas, conversely, the Commission has refused in recent months to fund the construction of physical barriers, which were requested by 12 Member States in the face of the massive and incessant waves of migration; whereas the Executive Director of Frontex was constrained to resign because he wanted to uphold the mandate to protect the Union’s external borders;

1. Recalls that Member States retain sovereignty over border management;
2. Expresses concerns about the enlargement of the Schengen area to include two Member States located along the eastern borders of the Union; considers this to be contrary to the interests of the other Member States in the Schengen area;
3. Stresses that, in the current Schengen framework, the rigorous management of external borders is required in order to ensure free movement, as weaknesses may result in a loss of control over basic public safety factors;
4. Reiterates that an efficient external border management system is closely linked to strict external border controls, including swift return procedures for illegal third-country nationals;
5. Asks the Member States, the Council and the Commission to make this enlargement contingent upon the simultaneous strengthening of the frameworks and resources devoted to the protection of the Union's external borders;
6. Declares its opposition to further enlargements of the Schengen area unless the protection of the Union's external borders is likewise reinforced accordingly;
7. Instructs its President to forward this resolution to the Council, the Commission and the governments of the Member States.