

**Priority question for written answer P-002893/2020
to the Commission**

Rule 138

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Subject: Introduction of border controls to stem the COVID-19 pandemic

The free movement of people in the Schengen Area is one of the greatest achievements of the European Union. Yet on 25 March 2020, the 25th anniversary of the Schengen Agreement coming into force, the borders of most of the Member States of the European Union were closed due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

1. Does the Commission consider that border closures are an appropriate way to curb the spread of the novel Sars-CoV-2 coronavirus? If so, can the Commission set out the scientific arguments with which the Member States concerned justify their decision?
2. Will the Commission state the reasons given by certain Member States for their selective border closures? What legal justifications and legal bases underpin this action?
3. What action is the Commission taking to restore the functioning of the Schengen Area and guarantee the fundamental rights of Europe's citizens?