



Adapting Schengen to evolving challenges

#SchengenEU | #SecurityEU | December 2021

The Commission is proposing:

- Updates to the Schengen Borders Code for more coordinated management of the EU's external and internal borders to codify the lessons learnt during the COVID-19 pandemic
- To streamline rules on the reintroduction of border control at internal borders ensuring that any prolongation is met with proper safeguards
- To support operational police cooperation and alternative measures to ensure that internal border controls remain a measure of last resort
- To define instrumentalisation and specify the measures that Member States can take to reinforce border surveillance

This will make the Schengen area stronger, safer and fit for evolving challenges

THE SCHENGEN AREA IS ONE OF THE EU'S BIGGEST ACHIEVEMENTS:



- It is home to more than 420 million people across 26 countries



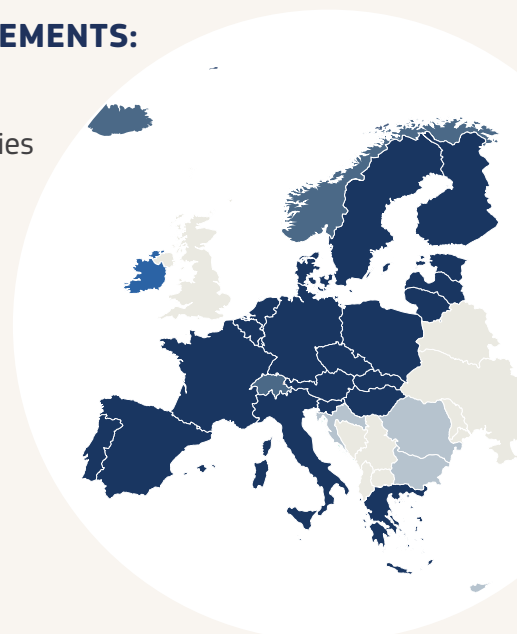
- Almost 1.7 million people reside in one Schengen State and work in another



- Every day around 3.5 million people cross internal borders



- Schengen is essential for the functioning of the Single Market



COORDINATED RESPONSE TO SHARED THREATS:

- New mechanism for a common response in situations of threats affecting most Member States
- Binding rules on temporary travel restrictions at external borders in case of public health threat

NEW RULES TO PROMOTE EFFECTIVE ALTERNATIVES TO INTERNAL BORDER CHECKS:

- In line with the new EU Police Cooperation code, increased and more operational police checks
- More structured procedure for any reintroduction of internal border controls, with more safeguards in the event of any prolongations
- Limiting the negative impact of internal border checks on border regions
- Addressing unauthorised movements within the Schengen area

SUPPORTING MEMBER STATES IN MANAGING SITUATIONS OF INSTRUMENTALISATION OF MIGRATION:

- More specific measures to strengthen border surveillance
- Emergency asylum and return management procedure
- Operational support by EU agencies (EU Agency for Asylum, Frontex, Europol)



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