

Global Immigration alert

January 2025

Schengen Area

Schengen border controls (January 2025)

Executive summary

This document provides details of the internal border controls in the Schengen Area as of 10 January 2025.

Background

- ▶ The Schengen Borders Code ([SBC](#)) enables Member States to temporarily reinstate controls at internal borders of the Schengen Area in exceptional circumstances, such as situations of significant threat to public order or internal security.
- ▶ Reintroduction of such controls must be limited in scope and taken as a measure of last resort in accordance with commonly agreed criteria.
- ▶ For predictable events, internal border controls are limited to 30 days or for the foreseeable duration of the event. In these cases, border controls can be extended for up to 30 days per extension, for a maximum period of six months.
- ▶ Member States must notify the European Commission and other Member States at least four weeks before a planned reintroduction of border controls. In emergency situations, Member States may reintroduce border controls for up to 10 days without prior notification and inform the Commission and other Member States immediately. In these cases, controls may be extended for up to 20 days per extension, for a maximum period of two months.

Key developments

As of 10 January 2025, 10 Schengen countries have ongoing border controls. In December 2024, Germany, Italy, the Netherlands and Slovenia enacted new controls or extended existing ones, and Bulgaria introduced border controls effective 1 January 2025. Please see the following page for additional information. Some of these border controls might have been in place since before the dates mentioned in the table below, and the end dates may be extended. See [this link](#) for the latest updates.

Impact on employers

The reintroduction of internal border controls leads to additional administrative requirements and delays in travel for individuals crossing internal borders. Employers may stay updated and keep employees informed regarding the latest developments.

Key steps

EY will continue to monitor these developments. Should you have any questions, we encourage you to contact one of our immigration professionals.



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Country	Start date	End date	Impacted borders	Rationale
Austria	16 October 2024	15 April 2025	Land/sea borders with Slovakia, all borders with Czechia	Irregular migration (e.g., via the Balkan routes), migratory pressure in the pre-frontier area, strain on the asylum reception system, Russia's ongoing aggression against Ukraine, the security situation in the Middle East
	12 November 2024	11 May 2025	Land borders with Hungary and Slovenia	Irregular migration and increase in smuggling activities via Austria's southern borders, strain on the asylum reception system, security risks resulting from global security policy developments in Ukraine and the Middle East, and threat of terrorism throughout the EU
Bulgaria	1 January 2025	30 June 2025	Land borders with Romania	Security risks related to illegal migration, including smuggling activities, as well as migratory pressure caused by ongoing crises in the Middle East and Africa, particularly in Syria, Afghanistan and Gaza/Lebanon
Denmark	12 November 2024	11 May 2025	All internal borders, land/sea borders with Germany	Threats to public policy and internal security posed by continuous terrorism-related events and organized crime, acts of physical sabotage by individuals linked to Russia, armed conflicts in the Middle East and Africa, etc.
France	1 November 2024	30 April 2025	Borders with Belgium, Germany, Italy, Luxembourg, Spain, Switzerland	Serious threats posed by terrorism, criminal networks facilitating irregular migration and smuggling, risk infiltration by radicalized individuals, irregular crossings on the Channel and North Sea borders, rising violence among migrants
Germany	16 September 2024	15 March 2025	Borders with Belgium, Denmark, France, Luxembourg, the Netherlands	Irregular migration, including smuggling, at the EU's external borders, increased levels of irregular entries, tense accommodation situation for refugees, especially considering the admission of Ukrainian nationals
	12 November 2024	15 March 2025	Borders with Austria	Irregular migration, increasing migratory pressure at the EU's external borders because of developments in Afghanistan, Syria and Turkey, Russia's ongoing aggression against Ukraine, security situation in the Middle East, terrorist activity
	16 December 2024	15 March 2025	Borders with Czechia, Poland, Switzerland	Irregular migration, migrant smuggling activities, strain on the asylum reception system, Russia's ongoing aggression against Ukraine, security situation in the Middle East
Italy	19 December 2024	18 June 2025	Land borders with Slovenia	Irregular migration (e.g., via the Mediterranean and Balkan routes), ongoing crises in Eastern Europe and the Middle East, increasing migratory pressures, risk of terrorist infiltration, risk of violence against Israeli nationals
Netherlands	9 December 2024	8 June 2025	Land and air borders with Belgium and Germany	Irregular migration, migrant smuggling, substantial secondary migration flows, high pressure on the migration system (particularly on the asylum system), increase in criminal incidents at reception centers
Norway	12 November 2024	11 May 2025	All internal borders, ports with ferry links to the Schengen Area	General threat aimed at the energy sector, threats of sabotage posed by the Russian intelligence service, as well as to increase infrastructure protection
Slovenia	22 December 2024	21 June 2025	Land borders with Croatia and Hungary	Threats to public policy and internal security posed by continuous terrorism-related events, hybrid threats by Russia (including Russia's ongoing aggression in Ukraine and unlawful entry attempts by Russian nationals)
Sweden	12 November 2024	11 May 2025	All internal borders (land, air, sea)	Serious threats to public policy and internal security posed by recent terrorism-related events, serious crime associated with an ongoing armed conflict in the organized crime environment

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