

**Priority question for written answer P-002554/2024
to the Commission**

Rule 144

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Subject: Reintroduction of border controls by the Netherlands Government

On 11 November 2024, the Netherlands Government notified the Commission of its plans to implement border controls from 9 December at its borders with Germany and Belgium and at airports. This move highlights the impact of the continued influx of irregular migrants and asylum seekers on the asylum system. The government claims that the Netherlands asylum system is at risk of ‘disruption’, specifically in terms of reception capacity and available housing. The government is basing the reintroduction of border controls on Article 25a(4) and (5) of the Schengen Borders Code (a serious threat to public policy or internal security)¹. At the same time, the Netherlands Government intends to make substantial cuts to the asylum chain in the coming years.

1. Has the Netherlands met the deadline for submitting to the Commission a draft of its national implementation plan for the Pact on Migration and Asylum²? If not, does the Commission agree that the Netherlands Government should rather focus on the implementation and execution of the Pact on Migration and Asylum instead of reintroducing border controls that cause significant inconvenience to citizens and businesses?
2. Does the Commission regard this reintroduction of internal border controls as proportionate and strictly necessary, and as a measure of ‘last resort’? If not, what measures will the Commission take to ensure that Dutch citizens and companies can fully enjoy the right of free movement?

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¹ https://www.tweedekamer.nl/kamerstukken/brieven_regering/detail?id=2024Z18066&did=2024D43216

² <https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/HTML/?uri=CELEX:52024DC0251>