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Answer given by Mr Brunner
on behalf of the European Commission
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Protecting the EU's external borders is a priority and a collective responsibility requiring constant vigilance and preparedness. Effective protection of the EU's external borders has been significantly improved by developing stronger border and security architecture and by enhancing EU's integrated border management. The European Asylum and Migration Management Strategy further develops efforts on enhancing border protection and security[1], building on the work already done in the context of the Pact of Migration and Asylum[2]. The Commission will continue working with the Member States on the effective implementation of the Pact and providing EU level support, including through the relevant EU Agencies. Lessons learnt from the events in Ceuta will also be taken into consideration in the context of the upcoming proposal for the revision of the European Border and Coast Guard Agency mandate.

According to EU rules, there are border controls on persons travelling from Ceuta (and Melilla) towards the EU, including mainland Spain. No onward movements from Ceuta have been reported. Under the Schengen Borders Code[3], Member States may exceptionally and temporarily reintroduce internal border controls as a measure of last resort where there is a serious threat to public policy or internal security.

Morocco is an important partner of the EU and work is ongoing to establish a strategic and comprehensive partnership that meets the interests and priorities of both sides.

[1] COM(2026) 45 final.
[2] https://home-affairs.ec.europa.eu/policies/migration-and-asylum/pact-migration-and-asylum_en.
[3] Regulation (EU) 2016/399; ELI: http://data.europa.eu/eli/reg/2016/399/oj.