

Federal Interior Minister Horst Seehofer extends internal border checks to intra-European air and maritime transport
Starting immediately, entry restrictions will also apply to flights and cruises from Italy, Spain, Austria, France, Luxembourg, Denmark and Switzerland

After a decision made by the Federal Cabinet, the Federal Interior Minister Horst Seehofer has extended the temporary border checks to intra-European air and maritime transport for further mitigating the hazard of coronavirus infections.

Starting immediately, intra-European border checks will also apply to flights arriving in Germany from Italy, Spain, Austria, France, Luxembourg, Denmark and Switzerland. This also applies to maritime transport from Denmark.

Federal Minister Scheuer said:

The current situation requires that we guarantee a stable provision of basic services in regional transport while at the same time limiting cross-border movement of travellers within Europe to an absolute minimum. Since last night, third-country nationals may only enter Germany in rare exceptional cases (e.g. medical staff). Today, for the protection of the population, we are taking the next step. We are extending the entry restrictions to travellers from the European Member States. No matter whether they are using air, rail, maritime or road transport services to get to Germany. Particularly freight transport and staff from the medical or critical infrastructure sectors are exempted from these measures. In doing so, we are creating uniform regulations for travelling from within and outside of Europe.

For travellers without an urgent reason for their trip, there will be travel restrictions with immediate effect on these transport links. Travellers with an urgent reason for their trip and commuters are asked to carry with them documents proving the necessity of their border crossing.

The Federal Ministry of the Interior is asking all citizens to refrain from not urgently necessary travelling.

The affected EU Member States were informed in advance. A corresponding notification concerning the reintroduction of temporary border checks on the basis of Article 28 of the Schengen Borders Code has been sent to the European Commission and the Ministers of the Interior of all EU Member States.