

PRESIDENCY OF THE COUNCIL OF MINISTERS

Council of Ministers Resolution No 10-B/2020

Summary: Restores, on an exceptional and temporary basis, the document control of persons at the borders in the context of the epidemiological situation caused by the novel SARS-CoV-2 coronavirus and COVID-19 disease.

Whereas the World Health Organisation, on 30 January 2020, declared the COVID-19 situation as an International Public Health Emergency and, on 11 March 2020, declared COVID-19 to be a pandemic;

Taking into account of the epidemiological situation worldwide and of the increasing the number of cases of infection in Portugal, with the gradual extension of its geographical expression, it is essential, on public health grounds, to ensure internal security by means of appropriate measures to contain the possible contagion lines, including the reintroduction of border controls at the internal border between Portugal and Spain.

The Government therefore considers that it is necessary to reintroduce border control at internal borders on a temporary basis, anticipating that need for a period of at least 30 days, without prejudice to its re-evaluation within 10 days of this date.

This resolution constitutes an exception to the arrangements for the absence of checks on persons crossing internal borders as provided for in the Schengen Borders Code, as adopted by Regulation (EU) 2016/399 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 9 March 2016, as amended, in accordance with Article 28 of that Regulation.

The restoration of border control follows the measures already taken in Decree Law No 10-A/2020 of 13 March 2020, in the Order of the Ministers of the Interior and of Health No 3298-B/2020 of 13 March 2020 and in the European Commission's guidelines on border management, with measures to protect health and ensure the availability of essential goods and services, which were approved on 16 March.

Therefore:

In accordance with Article 199(g) of the Constitution, the Council of Ministers hereby resolves to:

1 — Establish that, in the period between 23:00 on 16 March 2020 and 00:00 on 15 April 2020, without prejudice to re-evaluation every 10 days and possible prolongation, the control of persons at Portuguese internal borders is reintroduced, in accordance with Article 6(6) of Law No 23/2007 of 4 July 2007 and Article 28 of the Schengen Borders Code, approved by Regulation (EU) 2016/399 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 9 March 2016, as amended.

2 — Determine that the Foreigners and Borders Service (*Serviço de Estrangeiros e Fronteiras, SEF*), in accordance with Article 2 of its regulations approved by Decree-Law No 252/2000 of 16 October 2000, as amended, is the body responsible for applying these exceptional border control measures in cooperation with the security forces.

3 — Establish that internal border control should be appropriate and proportionate in order to reduce its impact on the free movement of persons, in accordance with Article 28 of Regulation (EU) 2016/399 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 9 March 2016 and with this resolution.

4— Determine that:

a) All flights of all airlines, whether commercial or private, with provenance from Spain or destination to Spain, to or from Portuguese airports or aerodromes, with the exception of State or Armed Forces aircrafts, cargo and mail flights, humanitarian or medical emergency flights and technical stops for non-commercial purposes shall be suspended;

b) Road traffic at internal land borders is prohibited, regardless of the type of vehicle, except for the international carriage of goods, transport of cross-border workers and the circulation of emergency and rescue vehicles or urgent services;



- c) Rail traffic is suspended, except for the carriage of goods;
- d) River transport between the two countries is suspended;
- e) The docking of pleasure boats and the disembarking of persons are prohibited;
- f) The grant of licenses to go ashore for vessel crew members in national ports shall be suspended, without prejudice to, on a case-by-case basis and subject to opinion of the Health Authority, the possibility of authorising the exchange of crew members or their disembarkation for the purpose of returning to the country of origin;
- g) The prohibition to disembark passengers and crews from cruise ships in national ports is maintained, with the exception of national citizens and residents in Portugal, as determined by Order No 3298-C/2020, published in *the Diário da República*, 2nd series, No 52, of 13 March 2020.

5 — Establish that the traffic constraints referred to in the preceding paragraph shall not affect:

- a) The right of entry of nationals and holders of residence permits in their respective countries;
- b) The movement of diplomatic staff, armed forces and security forces staff and services;
- c) The movement, on an exceptional basis, for the purpose of family reunification of spouses or equivalent and first degree relatives in the direct line;
- d) Access to healthcare facilities in accordance with bilateral agreements on health care provision;
- e) The right of exit for citizens residing in another country.

6 — Provide that health checks may be introduced on entry into the national territory and that the filling in of the declaration form attached to this resolution, of which it forms an integral part, may be requested.

7 — Decree that between 23:00 on 16 March 2020 and 00:00 on 15 April 2020, the following shall be authorised crossing points at the land border:

- a) Valença-Viana do Castelo, exit of the Bridge Tuy-Valença-IP 1-A 3-connection, in Valença;
- b) Vila Verde da Raia-Chaves, exit of A 52, connection with A 24, km 0, near the roundabout;
- c) Quintanilha-Bragança, exit from the International Bridge IP 4/E 82, exit junction to Quintanilha or near the CCPA premises in N 218-1 Quintanilha;
- d) Vilar Formoso-Guarda close to the border line, Largo da Fronteira, close to the CCPA, N 16/E 80, connection 620 Fuentes de Ñono, Spain, including access by the TIR Park, via trucks, N 16, Vilar Formoso;
- e) Termas de Monfortinho-Castelo Branco, junction of N 239 with N 240 in Termas de Monfortinho;
- f) Marvão-Portalegre, border line, Marvão, N 521 connection between Valência de Alcântara and IC 13 Marvão;
- g) Caia-Elvas, exit from A 6, km 158, Caia-Elvas connection, close to the Tourism Office, Elvas;
- h) Vila Verde de Ficalho-Beja, close to the border line, connection A 495 Rosal de la Frontera to IP 8, Serpa;
- i) Castro Marim-Praça da Fronteira, km 131 of A 22, International Bridge of Guadiana-Castro Marim.

8 — Charge the National Republican Guard to carry out surveillance between the authorised crossing points identified above.

9 — Stipulate that this Resolution shall enter into force on the date of its adoption.

Presidency of the Council of Ministers, 16 March 2020. — The Prime Minister, *António Luís Santos da Costa*.



ANNEX

(referred to in point 6)



MINISTRY OF INTERNAL ADMINISTRATION
SERVIÇO DE ESTRANGEIROS E FRONTEIRAS
(FOREIGNERS AND BORDERS SERVICE)
PF/CCPA/PPA _____

DECLARATION / QUESTIONNAIRE

CITIZEN'S IDENTIFICATION

Name: _____	Surname: _____
Date of birth: ___/___/___	Nationality: _____ Sex: M <input type="checkbox"/> F <input type="checkbox"/>
Address: _____	
Civil status: _____	Doc. Identification: _____ N.º _____

VEHICLE

Brand: _____	Model: _____
Registration: _____	State: _____

ACCOMMODATION

Name: _____	Town: _____
Address: _____	Contact: _____

QUESTIONNAIRE

Do you have any symptoms related to COVID-19 ? Yes No

If yes, which one(s)

Fever	Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	No <input type="checkbox"/>
Cough	Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	No <input type="checkbox"/>
Body pain	Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	No <input type="checkbox"/>
Respiratory difficulties	Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	No <input type="checkbox"/>

Have you been in contact with someone presenting the symptoms described above? Yes No

How long do you intend to stay in Portugal? _____ Days

Have you been recently in an infected area? Yes No

Which?

The Citizen

The Inspector
