# Security of the EU Boundaries in the Post Cold-War Era

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The European Union is founded upon the principle of progressive disappearance of internal boundaries, and, in most of the European's minds, this vision can only be assumed by the reinforcement of the external ones. The openness to Central and Eastern Europe, following the collapse of the soviet bloc, has increased the meaning of this equation. The Schengen agreement, with it both internals and externals effects, embodies clearly this policy. However, the critics are becoming always stronger against this system. Some insiders consider that Schengen is not efficient enough, while outsiders complain about the closure of the Union's borders…

This paper has primarily the objective to understand why, and how, this discrepancy has occurred. What are the results of the Schengen system? Are there some recurrent security problems at the EU boundaries? Why are some public opinions, and political parties, so critical about this system? Furthermore, this essay will explore the new paradigm of an European Union facing the "outside" and analyse it strategies to assure security at it borders.