

**Question for written answer E-006875/2014
to the Commission**

Rule 130

Morten Messerschmidt (ECR)

Subject: A ban on returning 'holy warriors' entering the EU

A large number of so-called 'holy warriors' have left EU Member States to go to war in Syria and Iraq – including under the flags of the terrorist army 'Islamic State' (IS). In recent months, in an unprecedented frenzy of violence, IS has murdered thousand of civilians, has tortured and burnt people to death, and has the barbaric killing of Western journalists on its conscience.

It is therefore clear that those warriors who return radicalised from the battlefield represent a serious security problem for the EU's Member States, which is further exacerbated by open borders and consequently very inadequate border controls.

Could the Commission therefore please state its position – in the interest of EU citizens' safety – on the comprehensive security risk represented by 'holy warriors' seeking to return to EU Member States?

On that basis, will the Commission take steps to prevent warriors from returning to the EU, thus acknowledging that, owing to the opening of borders under the Schengen Convention, this responsibility cannot lie with the individual Member States, which are prevented from carrying out permanent checks on their borders?