

**Question for written answer E-009097/2014
to the Commission**

Rule 130

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Subject: Schengen Agreement and the threat of terrorism

According to recent press reports, security officials across Europe are growing increasingly concerned over the number of European jihadists who are able to move undetected across the continent as a result of the Schengen Agreement. There are an estimated 3 000 European jihadists currently fighting in Iraq and Syria and the lack of border checks in place gives rise to security loopholes for individuals who are willing to commit terrorist acts in their home countries. As a result, even Germany's Federal Minister for the Interior Dr Thomas de Maizière has said that the Schengen Agreement needs to be changed in order to tackle the problem.

1. What is the Commission's position as regards fears that the easing of restrictions at border crossings in Europe could exacerbate the threat of terrorism posed by jihadists who return from Syria and Iraq?
2. What is the Commission's position as regards adopting amendments to the Schengen Agreement to address crossborder terrorist threats?