

**Question for written answer E-003546/2015/rev.1
to the Commission**
Rule 130
Morten Messerschmidt (ECR)

Subject: Increased anti-Semitism in the EU

Terrorist attacks on a synagogue on 15 February and on a Paris kosher supermarket on 9 January have undermined citizens' sense of security within the EU. This wave of anti-Semitism and Islamist terrorism has shaken Europe's Jewish community in particular.

An FRA survey¹ on Europe's Jewish population in the eight European countries where 90% of them reside, found that 76% of the respondents considered anti-Semitism to have increased in their country over the past five years. In the 12 months preceding the survey, 26% of all respondents experienced incidents involving verbal insults or harassment because they were Jewish.

The upsurge of anti-Semitic attacks against Jewish citizens in EU Member States indicates a need for joint measures to be taken. Political action should be based on sound data and information collected from EU Member States.

In order to assess the effectiveness of existing policies, in particular Council Framework Decision 2008/913/JHA, does the Commission have an official data-collection mechanism that records past and current anti-Semitic incidents occurring in the EU?

What programmes have been instigated by the Commission with a view to combating anti-Semitism, including educational initiatives, campaigns against hate crime and activities to support Jewish culture?

¹ (European Union Agency for Fundamental Rights) http://fra.europa.eu/sites/default/files/fra-2014_antisemitism-update-2003-2013_web.pdf