

Question for written answer E-004040/2015
to the Commission (Vice-President / High Representative)
Rule 130
Marc Tarabella (S&D)

Subject: VP/HR - European 'anti-jihad' recruits

Europeans horrified by Da'esh's slaughter of eastern Christians are joining armed Christian groups to fight Islamic State in Iraq or Syria. On the face of it, these new anti-jihad volunteers cannot easily be categorised: some are retired, whereas others are barely in their twenties; some have never even held a gun, whereas others have already had proper military training. All of them, however, say that they are determined to fight the 'barbarity of ISIS'. We all know what the EU's position is regarding its citizens who leave to join the jihadis and the danger they pose when they return to Europe.

1. What is the EU's position on these new European 'anti-jihad' armed groups?
2. Does the Commission put these armed groups in the same category as terrorist groups?
3. What measures does it suggest, in a best-case scenario, to address these problems?