Question for written answer E-004187/2015 to the Commission Rule 130 Miroslav Poche (S&D)

Subject: Rising anti-Muslim sentiment following the Charlie Hebdo attack

The attack on French satirical magazine Charlie Hebdo in January 2015 was, in many ways, a realisation of our worst fears. Radicalised Europeans have infiltrated our society, avoided detection and successfully carried out a string of attacks on innocents.

Anti-Muslim sentiment has been rising dramatically throughout France ever since. According to the French National Observatory Against Islamophobia, 128 anti-Muslim incidents were documented throughout France between 9 and 20 January 2015, compared with 133 such incidents in total in 2014. Those incidents ranged from the vandalism of mosques to direct acts of violence against Muslims and Muslim-friendly families and businesses, according to the French Council for the Muslim Faith.

Article 19 of the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union requires that the EU 'take appropriate action to combat discrimination based on sex, racial or ethnic origin, religion or belief, disability, age or sexual orientation'.

Is the EU or any of its institutions actively investigating the alleged incidents of discrimination against Muslims, both in France and elsewhere, following the Charlie Hebdo attack?

How does the EU intend to engage with the French Government to prevent the discrimination of and acts of violence against Muslims?

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