

**Question for written answer E-004374/2015  
to the Council**  
Rule 130  
**Morten Messerschmidt (ECR)**

Subject: Parallel agreement between Denmark and the EU

With the Treaty of Lisbon, Denmark's opt-out in respect of justice and home affairs will gradually bar the country from participating in EU cooperation on issues such as human trafficking, international crime and the fight against terrorism. Unless parallel agreements are concluded between Denmark and the EU, for example in relation to Europol, this will have a negative effect on EU citizens' safety and security.

Combating international crime is of vital importance to all Member States. According to Europol, its 800 staff are involved in about 18 000 cross-border investigations every year in collaboration with 28 EU national police forces. Denmark has always been an active Europol participant, cooperating with competent national police authorities on preventing and combating terrorism, unlawful drug trafficking and other organised crime.

Nevertheless, a parallel agreement on Europol between the Member States and Denmark could ensure that Denmark remains a member of Europol, which is mutually beneficial.

Taking into consideration the remaining terrorist threat in the EU, will the Council therefore state when, and at which meetings/events, such a parallel agreement in relation to Europol cooperation with Denmark in the event that Denmark maintains its opt-out has been negotiated, discussed or mentioned, either formally or informally?