

Question for written answer E-005584/2015
to the Council
Rule 130
Mireille D'Ornano (NI)

Subject: The terrorist threat in the Mediterranean

According to the report 'Quarter 3, July-September 2014' of the European Agency for the Management of Operational Cooperation at the External Borders of Member States of the European Union (FRONTEX), 90 % of clandestine immigration recorded for the third quarter of 2014 occurred at the maritime borders of the European Union.

It is important to take account of the current background against which this form of immigration takes place. Recent events in Tunisia would suggest that the terrorist threat has now reached our closest neighbours, which is why it would seem justified to believe that the danger has reached the waters of the Mediterranean. Streams of immigrants heading for the south of Italy in particular could easily be used as corridors for armed men who could threaten the population of Europe.

1. Is the Council of the opinion that existing measures, such as the Triton programme launched in November 2014, are sufficient to provide protection for the people of Europe faced with this threat?
2. Does the Council intend monitoring Mediterranean waters where pleasure cruises could be under threat, by establishing a framework of cooperation in the Mediterranean aimed at both dissuading terrorist attacks and dealing with them?