

**Question for written answer E-015093/2015
to the Commission**
Rule 130
Joëlle Bergeron (EFDD)

Subject: Revision of Directive 2008/51/EC

The Commission will shortly propose a revised version of Directive 2008/51/EC on firearms, in connection with its security programme submitted on 28 April 2015.

However, the proposed text appears to show a clear contradiction between the grounds invoked for amending this directive, namely the use of illegal automatic weapons, and the real purpose of this review, namely the prohibition of illegal weapons.

Many Member States, including my country, France, which has many amateur hunters, have a tradition whereby peace-loving people - hunters, shooters, collectors, etc. - are allowed to legally possess semi-automatic weapons.

1. Is the Commission not infringing here the principle of subsidiarity as defined in the Maastricht Treaty?
2. Does it not fear that peace-loving people, who are not in the least bit dangerous, will be harmed by this amended directive which, in any case, will not effectively combat the criminal use of these weapons that proliferate in the suburbs of our cities, because of arms trafficking?