

**Question for written answer E-001378/2016  
to the Commission**  
Rule 130  
**Jonathan Arnott (EFDD)**

Subject: Revision of Firearms Directive: maximum certificate length

Under UK law at present, the maximum duration of a firearms certificate is 5 years. However, the police, government and shooting organisations believe that a longer duration of up to 10 years would be appropriate.

The rationale for this proposed change is that the granting of such a certificate is already reviewed in the event of a criminal accusation against any person who holds such a certificate, and that time is better spent on policing the system rather than in the administration of fresh applications for a certificate.

However, I note that a pan-EU 5-year limit is suggested in the proposed revision of the Firearms Directive.

Would the Commission consider withdrawing this element of the proposal on the grounds of subsidiarity, allowing these matters to be determined directly by the Member States?