

**Question for written answer E-002299/2016
to the Commission**
Rule 130
Jørn Dohrmann (ECR)

Subject: Firearms Directive

Under the Directive on control of the acquisition and possession of weapons, the Commission is planning to tighten up firearms provisions in a number of areas, with the aim of preventing terrorist attacks, but the directive contains a number of measures that can hardly be justified on anti-terrorism grounds and inconvenience hunters, for example, who make lawful use of weapons. The problematic issues include an obligation to produce a medical certificate in connection with weapons purchases and sales, meaning that hunters would have to undergo a medical examination every five years, with, in addition, a ban on private individuals selling weapons to each other. Lastly, private ownership of semi-automatic firearms that resemble fully automatic weapons would no longer be allowed.

The Danish Federation of Hunters and the Dansk Land and Strandjagt hunting associations have raised objections to those parts of the directive that would make life difficult for hunters, and can hardly be said to prevent terrorism, and I also find it odd that inoffensive hunters should be subject to yet more red tape.

Is the Commission prepared to revise the directive with a view to removing provisions that make it difficult for hunters to acquire and possess firearms needed for hunting?

Does the Commission consider that mandatory medical examinations for hunters can help combat terrorism?