

**Question for written answer E-003200/2016**  
**to the Commission**  
Rule 130  
**Rachida Dati (PPE)**

Subject: Report on foreign fighters: profiles, threats and politics

At the request of the Netherlands, which has assumed the Presidency of the Council of the European Union, the International Centre for Counter-Terrorism (ICCT) published a report on 1 April 2016 on the phenomenon of foreign fighters in the Union.

It is estimated that the number of EU citizens going to fight in Syria and Iraq is between 3 900 and 5 000. Around 30 % of the foreign fighters have returned to their country of origin and 14 % have died.

My report on preventing the radicalisation and recruitment of Europeans by terrorist organisations, adopted with a large majority on 25 November 2015, calls on the Union to adopt a common definition of 'foreign fighters' for judicial purposes. The need for a common definition is reiterated in the recommendations section of the ICCT's report.

Will the Commission take the necessary steps to produce such a definition? If so, who will be involved in the process?