Question for written answer E-003701/2016 to the Commission Rule 130 Jørn Dohrmann (ECR)

Subject: Closing off the EU areas in Brussels

The horrendous attack on 22 March 2016 carried out by Islamic terrorists clearly showed that security at Zaventem Airport is inadequate. Similarly, the security of the areas which contain EU buildings must be considered. For example, there are public roads around the European Parliament. Streets are not equipped with bollards, stone or granite blocks as they are, for example, in front of the Danish Parliament. Such barriers could ensure that only vehicles with legitimate and justified admission to the area are let in. At the moment it is possible to drive between the buildings and park above the Metro.

In 1995, a truck loaded with fertiliser and diesel oil was used in Oklahoma for an attack that became known as the Oklahoma City bombing. This building was housing offices occupied by the US Federal Government, a kindergarten and a nursery for the children of the employees. Of those killed, 19 were children.

A truck or a passenger car loaded with explosives and parked on Rue Wiertz or one of the other streets around the Parliament would probably have the same effect. At the same time, glass buildings would function as 'dirty bombs', since glass splinters would fly through the rooms of the buildings on the affected streets.

Has the Commission considered installing bollards to split off the area around EU buildings?

In light of the Oklahoma City bombing, why have bollards not yet been installed?

Why does the Commission not believe that barriers are necessary?

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