

**Question for written answer E-004278/2016
to the Commission**
Rule 130
Hugues Bayet (S&D)

Subject: Cooperation between Member States and Europol on information exchange

At their latest hearings before the Committee on Civil Liberties, Justice and Home Affairs, both the Council's Counter-Terrorism Coordinator and the Director-General of Europol stressed that much still needed to be done to improve the exchange of intelligence between Member States on counter-terrorism.

They stressed in particular that not all Member States were connected to the Siena platform's counter-terrorism area and that there was still too little contribution to and use of 'Focal Point Travellers' by many Member States.

The exchange of intelligence is vital in counter-terrorism. There must be no let-up in strengthening cooperation between Member States. Any delay could have disastrous consequences.

That being so, can the Commission state:

- whether all Member States are now connected to the counter-terrorism area of the Siena platform set up by Europol?
- how many people have been registered in 'Focal Point Travellers', and what has been the level of contribution to and use of this information exchange tool by Member States?