

**Question for written answer E-007993/2016**  
**to the Commission**  
Rule 130  
**Franz Obermayr (ENF)**

Subject: Hamas's status on the EU terrorist list

The radical Islamic group Hamas, a branch of the Muslim brotherhood, could be removed from the EU terrorist list. On 22 September 2016, the German Press Agency (DPA) wrote: 'Procedural errors have taken place, European Court of Justice (ECJ) Advocate General Eleanor Sharpston explained on Thursday in Luxembourg (Case C-79/15 P). The corresponding decisions were taken on the basis of press reports and not official information from the authorities.' It is therefore to be expected that Hamas will be removed from the list. The expert's explanation is based on technical considerations and not content, however.

Striking Hamas from the list would make sympathisers more active and engender antisemitic sentiments across Europe. The Coordination Forum to Support Palestine (KFUP) in Austria is one such group. According to media reports, in 2014 the KFUP along with partner organisations organised a flashmob in front of the state opera in which actors portrayed Israelis threatening Palestinians with weapons and executing them.

1. Is the Commission still of the opinion that Hamas is inherently a terrorist organisation?
2. What impact relative to security policy does the Commission expect if the ECJ orders Hamas to be removed from the terrorist list?
3. Within its competences, will the Commission ensure that Hamas is given a new designation taking into account all formal requirements?