

**Question for written answer E-008905/2016
to the Commission**
Rule 130
Jana Žitňanská (ECR)

Subject: Revision of the Firearms Directive

On 18 November 2015 a proposal for the revision of the Firearms Directive was presented. The revision is a response inter alia to the terrorist attacks in Paris and Copenhagen and to the overall deterioration of the security situation in the EU. However, the proposal has given rise to a number of concerns amongst EU citizens who legally hold firearms, relating particularly to the fact that the proposed revision is unnecessary since it is directed against the legal possession of firearms, and legally owned weapons can be shown to have been involved in only a small number of criminal actions.

I should therefore like to ask:

1. What are the expected benefits of the proposed directive? On what impact assessments is it based? What will be taken as the indicator of its success?
2. How will weapons that are withdrawn be disposed of? What further steps is the Commission planning to take in the fight against illegal trafficking of arms into the EU from third countries?
3. Is there precise data on the number of legal firearms holders in the Member States that are affected by this proposal and is there data on the anticipated financial implications of the directive for them?