

**Question for written answer E-006656/2017
to the Commission**
Rule 130
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Subject: Assessment of action by online platforms to tackle illegal content online

Online platforms have a key role in the sharing of illegal content promoting terrorism. For several years I have been calling on the internet giants to assume responsibility for the monitoring and control of content appearing on their networks. In November 2015, I brought a report successfully through the European Parliament calling for the internet giants that do not cooperate enough in the fight against terrorism online to be held criminally liable.

Some Member States, including Germany, wish to implement strong sanctions in respect of platforms which do not rapidly remove such content online.

On 28 September 2017, the Commission drew up guidelines on combating illegal content online entitled 'Towards an enhanced responsibility of online platforms', in particular with regard to improving the detection and removal of such content. It announced that it would monitor the measures taken and assess whether additional measures, including legislation, were required by May 2018.

On what criteria will the Commission assess the improved effectiveness of the fight against terrorism online?

Is the Commission considering the introduction of criminal liability of online platforms as one of these further legislative measures?