Major interpellation for written answer with debate G-000008/2018
to the Commission (Vice-President / High Representative)

Rule 130b


Subject: VP/HR - Recent state-terror activities by Iran in the EU

On 30 October 2018, Copenhagen accused Iran’s intelligence services of planning an assassination on Danish soil. Prime Minister Lars Løkke Rasmussen stated that such acts are ‘totally unacceptable’ and that ‘further actions against Iran will be discussed in the EU’.

The foiled attack in Denmark is only the latest in a string of Iranian terror plots in Europe this year. In January, the German police raided 10 suspected Iranian agents believed to have spied on potential Israeli and Jewish terror targets, including Jewish kindergartens. That same month, Germany summoned Iran’s ambassador in Berlin after a Pakistani man was convicted of spying for Iran on a German politician as a possible assassination target. On 10 October, Belgium charged an Iranian diplomat accredited in Austria with plotting a bomb attack in France. Only a day earlier, the Czech Republic discovered a cybernetic espionage attack by Hezbollah, Iran's proxy. Furthermore, according to public reports by German intelligence services, Tehran uses mosques as ‘an instrument of the Iranian state’, propagating the ‘export of the Iranian revolution’.

1. Does the EU acknowledge that Iranian state terrorism and Shi’a groups operating at the behest of Iran – such as Hezbollah – pose a threat to European security?

2. Why didn’t the EEAS publicly condemn the recent terror plots or at least express its solidarity with the targeted Member States? Why hasn’t the Iranian ambassador to the EU been summoned? What, if anything, is the EU doing in order to curtail Iran’s criminal and terrorist activities in Europe?

3. Is the EU considering proscribing the Islamic Revolutionary Guards Corps (IRGC) and Hezbollah in its entirety in order to deter Iran from carrying out further attacks in Europe?