

**Question for oral answer O-000118/2016
to the Council**

Rule 128

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on behalf of the PPE Group

Subject: Internal security in the EU - progress made and challenges remaining following a year of unprecedented terrorist attacks

Following the Paris attacks of 13 November 2015, internal security has moved to the top of the EU agenda. In its conclusions of 17-18 December 2015, the European Council committed to an 'uncompromising fight against terrorism' and stressed, among other things, the urgency of enhancing relevant information-sharing and deeper cooperation between security services.

Close to one year after the Paris attacks, and following 13 more terrorist attacks in Europe since, security remains a major concern for EU citizens. Notwithstanding the remarkable legislative achievements made in this area over the past year, which include the reinforcement of EU agencies, especially Europol and Eurojust, the creation of the European Border and Coast Guard, and the adoption of the EU PNR Directive, much work remains to be done to achieve the Security Union proclaimed by the Commission President in March 2016 and reiterated in his State of the Union speech of 14 September.

1. How does the Council evaluate the progress achieved so far, in particular as regards the information exchange between Member States' security services and their contribution to Europol databases and SIS II?
2. How does the Council plan to prevent radicalisation on- and offline effectively?
3. Unlike other criminal acts, terrorist attacks usually result in a high number of victims, often including foreigners. Experience with the recent attacks shows that Member States do not have the necessary emergency mechanisms in place to attend quickly and effectively to the special needs of terror victims and their immediate families. How does the Council intend to ensure that terror victims and their families, irrespective of their nationality, receive the necessary immediate support and assistance, including legal and medical aid in the future?
4. It has been proven that two of the terrorists involved in the Paris attacks have taken advantage of the irregular migratory flow into Europe by entering through Greece where they registered with fraudulent Syrian documents, and by travelling on the refugee routes. What does the Council intend to do to thwart the abuse of refugee routes by terrorists?

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