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Parliamentary questions

23 April 2015

P-006606-15

Question for written answer to the Commission Rule 130 Gérard Deprez (ALDE)

Subject: Identification and withdrawal of online extremist material as part of the fight against cybercrime

Further to the approach taken by the Justice and Home Affairs Council on 12 March 2015, Europol has been asked to set up an Internet referral unit to identify extremist material on the Internet and withdraw it. Since 2007, however, Europol has been conducting a project known as 'Check the web', the purpose of which is to study online terrorist propaganda and to assess the threat it poses. It was set up to address the need to pool resources and prevent any duplication of work when it comes to website monitoring.

Could the withdrawal of the material not also have been placed under the remit of the 'Check the web' programme, which is already responsible for carrying out detection tasks? What is the justification for setting up two separate units, and what tasks are carried out by the European Cybercrime Centre (EC³) in this area?

What progress has Europol made in improving the circulation of information about cybercrime? Has a European platform been set up on which Member States can report offences committed on the Internet? If so, what outcomes have been achieved?

Original language of question: FR

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