EU response to the Paris terrorist attacks

European Union member states are enhancing security arrangements in the wake of the Islamic State attacks that killed 130 people in Paris on 13 November. The carnage has deeply shocked Europeans and their governments, reinforcing calls to strengthen the EU's counter-terrorism strategy, prevent radicalisation of the young generation, and find solutions to conflicts in Syria and elsewhere.

On 20 November, EU interior ministers agreed to increase checks on its citizens travelling abroad, tighten the circulation of illicit arms, and collect more data on airline passengers, according to their Council conclusions. They also agreed to revise the Schengen border code to make systematic checks of people's identity possible at internal borders. On 2 December, the European Commission adopted a package of measures to step up the fight against terrorism and the illegal trafficking of firearms and explosives, including a proposal for a Directive on Terrorism.

This note offers links to a selection of recent commentaries and analyses by major international think tanks and research institutes which analyse the implications of the Paris attacks and ways to prevent similar atrocities in the future.

The EU and its counter-terrorism policies after the Paris attacks
Centre for European Policy Studies, November 2015

After Paris: Why (now) the Lisbon Treaty
European Union Institute for Security Studies, November 2015

Le 13 novembre, et après?
Institut français des relations internationales, November 2015

L'Union européenne et la lutte contre le terrorisme
Fondation Robert Schuman, November 2015

After Paris: What price European defence?
European Council on Foreign Relations, November 2015

Paris 11/13/15: Analysis and policy options
Clingendael, November 2015

Europe’s sad 'new normal'
Friends of Europe, November 2015

After Paris: Back to basics
Foreign Policy Research Institute, November 2015
Merkel after Paris
Centre for European Reform, November 2015

European security after the Paris attacks
Centre for European Policy Studies, November 2015

Terrorism in Paris: Aux armes, citoyens?
Centre for European Reform, November 2015

Europe at the center of the terrorist vortex, again
German Marshall Fund, November 2015

Invoking the EU’s mutual assistance clause. What it says, what it means
Egmont, November 2015

What do the Paris attacks tell us about foreign fighters?
Brookings Institution, November 2015

Paris attacks come at a dangerous moment for Europe
Chatham House, November 2015

The profound global implications of the Paris attacks
German Marshall Fund, November 2015

After the Paris attacks, France turns to Europe in its time of need
Center for International and Strategic Studies, November 2015

After the Paris attacks: The battle for Europe’s soul
Heinrich Böll Stiftung, November 2015

What collective security agreements does the EU have?
Swedish Institute for International Affairs, November 2015

Insights on the Paris terror attacks
Rand Corporation, November 2015

Forging a European resolve
European Council on Foreign Relations, November 2015

Europe’s foreign policy reaction to the Paris attacks? Noise
Carnegie Europe, November 2015

Europe’s self-defence: Tous pour un et un pour tous?
Centre for European Policy Studies, November 2015

After the Paris attacks: The open society and its enemies
Carnegie Europe, November 2015