DRAFT OPINION

of the Committee on Foreign Affairs

for the Committee on Civil Liberties, Justice and Home Affairs

on the prevention of radicalisation and recruitment of European citizens by terrorist organisations (2015/2063(INI))

Rapporteur: Charles Tannock
SUGGESTIONS

The Committee on Foreign Affairs calls on the Committee on Civil Liberties, Justice and Home Affairs, as the committee responsible, to incorporate the following suggestions into its motion for a resolution:

1. Believes that enhanced international cooperation, determined national action and stable inclusive government in third countries at direct risk from jihadist extremist groups hold the key to countering the threat posed by terrorist groups and stemming the radicalisation of European citizens;

2. Expresses concern that without such action the phenomenon of fighters from Europe travelling to different locations to join jihadist extremist groups, as well as the security risk they present when returning to the EU, are likely to worsen in the years ahead;

3. Encourages the development of targeted and regularly upgraded security and counter-terrorism initiatives at Member State, EU and international level with a view to ensuring appropriate responses to emerging threats, including through working in partnership with neighbouring countries and regional actors;

4. Calls on the Council to keep the EU Syria and Iraq and Counter-Terrorism/Foreign Fighters Strategy, adopted on 20 October 2014, under constant review, in the light of the developing security situation in the EU’s southern neighbourhood, alongside other initiatives such as the Commission’s Radicalisation Awareness Network;

5. Supports greater international cooperation to identify EU citizens who are at risk of becoming radicalised and travelling to join jihadist extremist groups; further calls for enhanced cooperation between the EU, its Member States, and third countries to divert European citizens from this course of action and to intercept them at the point of exit;

6. Notes with concern that some Member States are assessing the potential for recruiting former foreign fighters to assist in deradicalisation programmes; calls on Member States to proceed cautiously when introducing such programmes, especially where cooperation is linked to immunity from prosecution.