

**Question for written answer E-002483/2017  
to the Commission**

Rule 130

**Marcus Pretzell (ENF)**

Subject: Illegal weapon ownership and crime

On 14 March 2017, weapons law was tightened within the EU. According to a January 2017 study by the German Hunting Association, there are 20 million illegally held firearms in Germany. By contrast, the number of legally held firearms is 5.3 million<sup>1</sup>.

What was the proportion of violent crime committed using legally held weapons in 2016 across the EU?

What steps would the Commission like to take in future to combat the ownership of illegal weapons?

What is the estimated number of illegal weapons being imported into the European Union?

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<sup>1</sup> <https://de.statista.com/statistik/daten/studie/163504/umfrage/anzahl-der-legalen-waffenbesitzer-in-deutschland/>