Question for written answer E-002624/2019 to the Commission Rule 138 Sophia in 't Veld (Renew) and Samira Rafaela (Renew)

Subject: Discriminatory impact of counter-terrorism measures

According to a report published by the NGO CAGE, the United Kingdom's counter-terrorism policies are being used in such a disproportionate way that minorities, especially Muslims, are being discriminated against at the border¹. The European Court of Human Rights has also ruled that the Convention for the Protection of Human Rights and Fundamental Freedoms was violated in the Beghal v The United Kingdom case². In the past decade, a large number of security measures have been adopted, both at EU and Member State level, many of which have had a big impact on fundamental rights and may have led to discrimination against ethnic and religious minorities.

Does the Commission agree that security policies should never lead to disproportionate and structural discrimination, either indirect or direct in nature?

What concrete actions is the Commission taking to monitor and address the (potential) discriminatory impact of all EU security policies, including counter-terrorism policies, on both EU and non-EU citizens?

How will the Commission evaluate the discriminatory impact of EU security policies on citizens, since too few official statistics on discrimination are collected?

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¹ https://www.cage.ngo/schedule-7-harassment-at-borders-report

² ECtHR, Judgment, Beghal v the United Kingdom, 28 February 2019.