

**Question for written answer E-002761/2019
to the Commission**

Rule 138

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Subject: Mobile payment services and Islamic terrorism

The UN's report on the Islamic State of Iraq and the Levant, dated 15 July 2019, states that some 5000 to 6000 foreign terrorist fighters travelled from Europe to the conflict zone in Iraq and the Syrian Arab Republic. According to the information available, approximately:

- 1500 to 2400 of them have been killed,
- 1500 to 2400 of them have returned to Europe,
- 500 to 900 of them remain detained in the region,
- 500 to 900 of them have relocated.¹

The report highlights the risk of acts of terrorism being financed through the bank accounts of deceased foreign terrorist fighters.² It also states that mobile payment service providers are less likely to monitor their customers' accounts.³ Crowdfunding could also be used.

How many people are dedicated to the fight against terrorist financing within the Commission?

¹ <https://undocs.org/en/S/2019/570>, paragraph 48. France's parliamentary delegation for intelligence reports that, of the 1328 people from France, 709 were still in Syria in March 2019, including 129 detainees, while 270 had returned to France. <https://www.dalloz-actualite.fr/sites/dalloz-actualite.fr/files/resources/2019/09/rapport.pdf>

² Paragraph 74 of the report.

³ Paragraph 75 of the report.