

**Question for written answer E-004073/2019  
to the Commission**

Rule 138

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**Subject:** Ongoing witch-hunt against the owners of legal firearms in the form of the ban on lead ammunition

The Commission is constantly taking steps which are clearly designed to make legal gun ownership more difficult.

It even went as far as to suggest that the tightening-up of the Firearms Directive to impose further restrictions on legal gun ownership was a measure taken with the aim of combating terrorism. Law-abiding hunters, sport shooters and collectors were thus lumped together with terrorists and criminals. At the time no fewer than 343 370 people signed a petition <sup>1</sup> protesting at the new rules:

In now proposing a ban on lead ammunition, the Commission is seeking to impose yet further restrictions on legal gun ownership and, in particular, hunting, and without involving Parliament.

1. What specific dangers does the Commission see in the legal possession of firearms by hunters, sport shooters and collectors which would justify the imposition of more and yet more restrictions on the possession and legal use of firearms?
2. Given that hundreds of thousands of people have spoken out against the tightening-up of gun laws, how does the Commission plan to involve citizens and their elected representatives in the process of introducing the proposed ban on lead ammunition, which is in effect a restriction on legal gun ownership?
3. Has the Commission assessed alternatives to lead ammunition from the point of view of safety (e.g. ricochets), the additional costs for hunters and the clean killing of game, and can it rule out any move by the EU in future to ban these alternatives as well?

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<sup>1</sup> EU : You cannot stop terrorism by restricting legal gun ownership.