

**Question for written answer E-000066/2020  
to the Commission**

Rule 138

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Subject: Terrorism in Ukraine

Islamic State is apparently seeking to send some of its members to Ukraine, a country which conveniently neighbours the Caucasus. According to the British press, several leading members of Islamic State have sought refuge in Ukraine. The SBU, Ukraine's security service, even claims that the individuals concerned could have plotted terrorist attacks from within the country without being detected by the local authorities.

In view of the ongoing instability gripping the country, in particular with regard to its politics, justice system and security, the situation in Ukraine poses a major terrorist threat to the rest of Western Europe. Several years ago, the Commission granted Ukrainian citizens visa-free travel in the Schengen area. Its decision was later endorsed by the Council and Parliament. Ukraine must therefore not be used as a springboard for terrorists who intend to carry out attacks.

What action does the Commission intend to take regarding territories such as Ukraine that are located in Europe and whose open borders to the Schengen area enable potential jihadists to enter the EU illegally, creating obvious security threats to other Member States?