

**Question for written answer E-006247/2020/rev.1
to the Council**
Rule 138
Jérôme Rivière (ID)

Subject: Terrorism and immigration: Schengen area not fit for purpose

On Thursday 29 October 2020, three people were killed in a terrorist attack carried out in a basilica in Nice, France. A few days later, on 2 November, in Vienna, Austria, Islamist terrorists killed four people and injured more than twenty. The investigation into the Nice attack revealed that the terrorist was an illegal immigrant who had arrived in Europe via the island of Lampedusa on 21 September, only a few months before.

In response to this threat, Emmanuel Macron has doubled the number of troops and police officers posted to France's land borders, finally acknowledging the explicit link between terrorism and immigration, as his official website makes clear: France, and the whole of Europe, currently face two types of terrorist threat: exogenous and endogenous. The exogenous threat derives from individuals coming from abroad.

The French President also announced that he wants to review the Schengen rules at the next European Council.

1. Does the Council still take the view that there is no link between terrorism and immigration?
2. Is the Council prepared to suspend the Schengen area and to grant Member States the freedom to control their own borders in the face of a deadly threat to the countries of Europe?