

**Question for written answer E-006822/2020
to the Commission**

Rule 138

Izaskun Bilbao Barandica (Renew)

Subject: European counter-terrorism agenda, police coordination, resource efficiency and the talent pool

This week, the Vice-President of the Commission, Margaritis Schinas, and the Commissioner for Home Affairs, Ylva Johansson, presented the European counter-terrorism agenda for the coming years. Amongst other measures, plans are afoot to step up support for local and regional authorities for the protection of public spaces and the prevention of radicalisation. However, the domestic legislation of some Member States classifies several sub-state police forces as full police forces and gives them powers in the fight against organised crime and terrorism. This is the case of bodies such as the Ertzaintza in the Basque Country or the Mossos d'Esquadra in Catalonia, which have made outstanding contributions to European security. However, they have suffered major limitations when it comes to gaining access to European coordination forums and to the Schengen system databases, which has led to serious problems.

1. In the Commission's view, can international terrorism be fought by doing without some of the talent and resources available to tackle it?
2. What measures does this plan include to prevent a recurrence of the limitations described above?
3. Does it not think that vetoes of this kind jeopardise the outcome of these shared efforts?