

**Question for written answer P-6552/2010
to the Council**
Rule 117
Stavros Lambrinidis (S&D)

Subject: Council recommendations for combating 'radicalisation' in the EU

The conclusions adopted at the Council meeting of 26 April recommend, as a means of combating 'radicalisation' within the EU, a mechanism for the collection of personal data for the purposes of political, religious and psychological profiling in order to assess the likelihood of recruitment by terrorist organisations of those concerned. An addendum dated 30 March 2010 contains a joint questionnaire for the authorities seeking to investigate, for example, ideologies directly advocating violence, more specifically 'extreme right/left, Islamist, nationalist, anti-globalisation etc.' movements, while a further question seeks to obtain data concerning the 'friends, family' etc. of individuals under investigation. In view of this:

1. What precisely is the Council's legal interpretation of the term 'ideology' with a view to monitoring the practices followed by the prosecution services regarding compliance with the rule of law? Who will be responsible for deciding which individuals subscribe to the 'ideologies' under investigation and accordingly which of them are to be subject to scrutiny? What criteria will be applied in this respect?
2. What is understood as being encompassed by 'anti-globalisation ideology' and how will the Council ensure that the extremely general nature of this concept does not mean that all those who hold political views diverging from the relevant 'mainstream ideology' regarding international developments are not from the outset treated as 'potentially violent suspects' and kept under surveillance accordingly? Similarly, the term 'Islamic ideology' obviously encompasses thousands of individuals who have no intention of committing acts of violence or inciting others to do so (offences in any case already covered by criminal law within the Member States and hence not necessitating any new data collection 'mechanism'). How does the proposed mechanism avoid the danger of the national authorities collecting data on all 'Islamic' (or other) 'ideologists', without exception, in order to investigate which of them are likely to engage in 'violent radicalisation' and which are not?
3. Why does the Council recommendation ignore the close link between certain forms of terrorism and organised crime, which obviously has very little to do with established 'ideologies'?
4. How does the Council respond to the accusation that its recommendation is couched in such general terms that it is effectively encouraging Member States to keep both law-abiding citizens and wrongdoers under systematic surveillance?