

**Question for written answer P-001224/2014
to the Commission**

Rule 117

Andrew Henry William Brons (NI)

Subject: Firearms licensing

When launching her firearms proposals last October (Firearms and the internal security of the EU: protecting citizens and disrupting illegal trafficking), Commissioner Maelstrom referred to 10 000 people having been killed by firearms in the EU between 2000 and 2010, but made no attempt to define what proportion of those people were killed with legally held firearms and what proportion with illegal weapons.

1. Why was there no attempt to determine the percentages of people killed with legal and illegal firearms?
2. Does the Commission agree that in the absence of such information, it will be impossible to reach an impartial view of the situation surrounding the use of firearms and the extent to which crime involving firearms involves illegally held firearms as opposed to legally held firearms?
3. Does the Commission really intend to penalise those who hold firearms legally by introducing yet a further layer of heavy regulation, which will do nothing whatsoever to reduce firearms crime, because it involves the use of illegally held weapons?
4. Has the Commission discovered any correlations between convictions for firearms crime and demographic factors such as age, gender, social class, ethnicity and citizenship?