

**Question for written answer E-015008/2015
to the Commission**
Rule 130
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Subject: Strengthening security on European cross-border railways

Following the recent bloody terrorist attacks in Paris, the French government has decided to step up security measures in international rail transport, placing security checks at train stations in Paris and Lille in order to control the access of passengers to the 'Thalys' international trains. Meanwhile, in Belgium, passengers for international destinations are subjected to airport-like data checks and baggage inspections prior to their departure.

Given that since last August, when an armed man was foiled in his attempt to attack the high-speed train from Amsterdam to Paris, many questions have been raised about the security of trains in Europe, will the Commission say:

1. What kind of initiatives will it take to increase security on international rail services? Does it envisage the possibility of checks on rail passengers similar to those at airports?
2. Although legislation creating a single European Passenger Name Records system in air transport has not yet been finalised, will the Commission propose that it be extended to include rail transport, bearing in mind that such measures are intended to help the authorities combat terrorism?