

**Question for written answer E-015012/2015
to the Commission**
Rule 130
Pavel Telička (ALDE)

Subject: EU-wide cooperation on rail security in the context of the terrorist threat

In response to the terrorist threat in Europe, France announced the implementation of security checks for Thalys trains in Paris and Lille, as is already the case for the Eurostar. As such measures can only be effective when implemented on both sides of the border, European-wide cooperation is necessary. Last August, nine Interior Ministers met to discuss reinforced security measures for cross-border rail transport but we have yet to see the results of the discussions.

In its answer to Written Question E-012577/2015, the Commission stated that it has launched a study to 'examine possible options to improve passenger rail security at the Union level'. This study is scheduled to take eight months and the Commission will only make a proposal after it has been completed. An 8-month wait is unacceptable under the current circumstances. Member States need to deliver immediate responses to the threat, and if EU coordination takes so long they will proceed individually and EU security will be fragmented.

1. Has the Commission considered speeding up the study?
2. Will the Commission provide Member States and railway operators with guidelines on security checks?
3. What else does the Commission plan to do in order to ensure the consistency of rail security?