Question for written answer E-015165/2015 to the Commission Rule 130 Fredrick Federley (ALDE)

Subject: Proposal for amendment of the Firearms Directive (91/477/EEC)

The new Commission proposal amending Directive 91/477/EEC, which seeks to combat illegal firearms, contains a number of suggestions that affect the use of legal weapons. Since these proposals will affect people such as hunters and hobby marksmen who use firearms legally, it is important to clarify what practical consequences the new rules will have, and to what extent they will have an impact upon the illegal weapons the legislative proposal seeks to combat.

I therefore have the following questions:

To what extent will the proposals for regular reviews and medical tests in connection with weapons licences impact upon the presence of illegal weapons, and how great will be the extra administrative burdens involved for the authorities responsible?

What effects will the proposals have on semi-automatic weapons for the many hobby marksmen and shooting clubs active in nearly all EU Member States?

What exceptions will be possible to the basic rule that firearms licences may not be granted to under-18s?

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