

**Question for written answer E-015119/2015
to the Commission**
Rule 130
Richard Sulík (ECR)

Subject: Revision of the Firearms Directive - statistics

The explanatory memorandum to the proposal for a revision of the Directive on control of the acquisition and possession of weapons makes a link between the proposed modifications and terrorist acts and organised crime. According to available information, the terrorist attacks in Paris (January and November 2015) and Copenhagen – to which the explanatory memorandum refers – were carried out using illegally obtained and held weapons.

In this connection, I ask the Commission to respond directly and fully to the following questions:

What is the rationale behind the Commission's proposal to tighten up, i.e. restrict, the legal possession of firearms when the terrorist attacks referred to in the explanatory memorandum were carried out using illegally held weapons?

What is the number of crimes committed each year in the Member States using legally held weapons?

Please provide statistics broken down by:

- organised crimes;
- terrorist offences or similar;
- crimes of murder;
- crimes of killing;
- crimes of bodily harm.

Has the Commission carried out a study on the impact, in terms of the growth of the illegal trade in weapons, of tightening up the conditions for legally obtaining and holding firearms?