

Question for written answer E-014838/2015
to the Commission (Vice-President / High Representative)
Rule 130
Nuno Melo (PPE)

Subject: VP/HR - The fight against terrorism

Given that:

- the attacks at various locations around Paris on Friday 13 November left at least 129 people dead, with the extremist group Islamic State claiming responsibility;
- the conventional instruments of diplomacy through political negotiation cannot be deployed in this case and it is essential that responses to combat terrorism are coordinated and effective, which necessarily means ensuring closer cooperation and joint efforts at international level;

Can the Vice-President/High Representative say:

1. On the understanding that this is not just a problem for France but for all Europeans, how does the European Union intend to take clear responsibility for a response and a swift and effective fight?
2. Would the Vice President/High Representative consider that air strikes could be backed up by ground forces?