

Question for written answer E-015579/2015
to the Commission
Rule 130
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Subject: Interoperability of information systems for combating serious crime and terrorism

It became clear during investigations into the Paris attacks of 13 November 2015 that, while there was no lack of information, the systems for information exchange and intelligence sharing among Member States were not working properly.

Law-enforcement services currently have access to various information tools: the Schengen Information System (SIS II), the Visa Information System (VIS), the European Dactyloscopy (EURODAC) fingerprint database, the Prüm Convention, the Europol Information System (EIS) and the European Criminal Records Information System (ECRIS).

However, while all these systems are simultaneously in place, the lack of interoperability between them and the existence of rival channels for police cooperation seem to have complicated the exchange of vital information that could have enabled police to prevent the attacks or to locate the terrorists currently on the run.

Can the Commission indicate what initiatives it intends to take to improve the cross-referencing of data from different information systems, and state which services will have access to such cross-referenced information?

In 2013, the Commission presented a study on the Automation of the Data Exchange Process (ADEP) project for exchanging police records. Does it intend to explore that project further or to develop other, equivalent systems?