

**Question for written answer E-015790/2015
to the Commission
Rule 130
Salvatore Domenico Pogliese (PPE)**

Subject: Danger posed by the presence of jihadis in the Balkans

Reports by Western intelligence services indicate that several thousand Islamic jihadis seem to be present in Macedonia, Montenegro, Albania, Bosnia-Herzegovina and Kosovo. More specifically, and following the end of the war in the Balkans in 1995, the strong Wahabi presence in the area has recently seen people being enrolled and trained to go and fight in Syria. These intelligence reports have also brought to light the existence of a campaign, at places of worship run by NGOs financed by states such as Saudi Arabia, Qatar, the UAE and Libya, to convince people to wage jihad. Jihadism in the Balkans would therefore seem to constitute a genuine danger for the security of the European Union.

In the light of the above, can the Commission state:

1. Whether it is aware that there are jihadi training camps in the Balkans?
2. Whether it can work with the local administration to ascertain the form and origin of the funding for NGOs that run places of worship and Islamic cultural centres?
3. Whether it intends, with specific reference to the Balkan countries that have embarked on the EU accession process, to define precise bilateral actions to combat terrorism and to make pre-accession aid conditional on complying with those objectives?