Question for written answer E-014860/2015 to the Commission Rule 130 Pavel Telička (ALDE)

Subject: Illegal arms trafficking in the EU

Eight weeks ago, I submitted a Written Question on arms trafficking, but to date have still not received an answer from the Commission. This situation is totally unacceptable. A common element in criminal activities and terrorist attacks in the EU is illegal arms trafficking, with arms crossing EU Member States without difficulty. So far, and despite several EU interior minister meetings, very little has been done to tackle the roots of this problem. In their conclusions of the meeting of 29 August 2015, the interior ministers asked the Commission to make proposals to strengthen the existing legislation on firearms. Moreover, these attacks have also called into question Europe's response in terms of police and intelligence cooperation and the need to reinforce Europol.

Taking into consideration these elements:

- 1. Can the Commission confirm that it acknowledges the urgency of the situation and that it is currently working on solutions?
- 2. If so, will the Commission propose new legislation, and notably a revision of Directive 91/477/EEC on the control of the acquisition and possession of weapons, by the end of this year?
- 3. What additional measures does the Commission intend to propose in order to strengthen police and intelligence cooperation with a view to effectively combating arms trafficking in the EU?

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