

Resolution on renewing the EU internal security strategy

2014/2918(RSP) - 17/12/2014 - Text adopted by Parliament, single reading

The European Parliament adopted by a resolution tabled by the Committee on Civil Liberties, Justice and Home Affairs on renewing the EU Internal Security Strategy (ISS), which noted that the ISS for the 2010-2014 period was coming to an end and a new ISS for the 2015-2019 period was being prepared.

It noted that the **security situation in Europe had changed dramatically** in recent years owing to new conflicts and upheavals in the EU's immediate neighbourhood, the rapid development of new technologies, and growing radicalisation leading to violence and terrorism. Since many security challenges were cross-border and cross-sectoral in nature, a common European approach was required.

Parliament called for the new ISS to be forward-looking and strategic, and **easily adaptable to evolving situations**, by focusing not only on existing security threats but also on emerging ones and taking an integrated, comprehensive and holistic approach to priority areas such as cybersecurity, trafficking in human beings and counter-terrorism, and to interlinked issues such as organised crime, money laundering and corruption.

Parliament noted with concern the **rapidly rising number of EU nationals who travel to conflict areas to join terrorist organisations** and subsequently return to EU territory, presenting new types of risks to EU internal security; Parliament said this worrying trend must be treated using a multi-dimensional approach, including by (i) addressing underlying factors such as radicalisation, intolerance and discrimination, (ii) counterbalancing incitement to perform terrorist acts motivated by extremism, (iii) preventing recruitment in conflict, including the actual travel of foreign fighters to conflict areas, within the appropriate legal frameworks, (iv) disrupting financial support to terrorist organisations and individuals aiming to join them, and (v) providing for legal prosecution where appropriate.

Members called for the right **balance** to be sought between prevention policies and repressive measures in order to preserve freedom, security the protection of all fundamental rights. All instrument must include the appropriate safeguards of accountability and judicial redress. Furthermore, Parliament felt it regrettable that the ISS still lacked a proper 'justice dimension'.

It pointed out that proper implementation of the new ISS was of critical importance, that a **clear division of tasks** between the EU level and the national level was necessary, and that both the European Parliament and the national parliaments needed to be part of this monitoring process.

Lastly, Parliament regretted the fact that the Commission's communication did not contain an evaluation of the current instruments and a corresponding assessment of remaining gaps.