

Prevention, preparedness and response to terrorist attacks

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The committee adopted the own-initiative report by Jaime MAYOR OREJA (EPP-ED, ES) on prevention, preparedness and response to terrorist attacks. The report stated that "prevention has to be based on information, on an ongoing public debate on the public threat, on a collective rejection of terrorism as a political strategy, on an analysis of the reasons used by some to justify a refusal to reject terrorism, bearing in mind that there is a need always to try to avoid causing undue alarm and misrepresenting the true nature of the threat".

Efforts must be made to ensure that "public opinion realises that all possible human and political efforts have been made to prevent attacks" and "to ensure that there is no crisis of confidence in the political project" of the EU.

MEPs said that the European Anti-Terrorism Coordinator should also have the resources to coordinate the immediate response to each attack, by promoting awareness-raising and social mobilisation in each Member State . Finally, the EU should consolidate the pilot project for aiding victims of terrorism by creating a permanent budget heading.