

EN

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Answer given by Mr Brunner
on behalf of the European Commission
(11.3.2025)

1. Since 2004, the Commission organises on 11 March the European Remembrance Day for Victims of Terrorism. This event was established in the aftermath of the terrorist attacks in Madrid on 11 March 2004. Its purpose is to remember and to support victims of terrorist attacks by providing them with a platform to gather, share their stories and experiences and, in turn, for them to hear about EU collaborative efforts to prevent and counter terrorism and support victims in their needs. It is also an opportunity to highlight the important role that victims can play in preventing violent radicalisation.

In the last years, French victims and survivors of terrorism have attended the ceremony and given their testimony. In 2025, which marks 10 years since the Charlie Hebdo and Bataclan attacks, the event will be held in Strasbourg to pay tribute to the victims of terrorism in France and throughout Europe.

2. The Commission relies on threat assessments produced by the EU Intelligence and Situation Centre of the EU Agency for Law Enforcement Cooperation (Europol)¹ as well as information shared by the Member States. In the current security landscape, the Islamist terrorist threat remains high in the EU.

3. While national security is a competence of Member States², the Commission supports Member States to counter terrorism. Considering the high and fast evolving security threat in the EU, the Commission is currently preparing a new Internal Security Strategy and a new Agenda on Preventing and Countering Terrorism and Violent Extremism³, both to be published in 2025. The Commission will also propose to strengthen Europol, whose mandate was already reinforced in 2022⁴. Furthermore, the Commission has established the EU Knowledge Hub on Prevention of Radicalisation⁵ to support Member States in their prevention efforts.

¹ <https://www.europol.europa.eu/publication-events/main-reports/european-union-terrorism-situation-and-trend-report-2024-eu-te-sat>

² Article 4.2 of the Treaty on EU.

³ Announced in the Political Guidelines for the next European Commission (2024-2029), https://commission.europa.eu/document/download/e6cd4328-673c-4e7a-8683-f63ffb2cf648_en?filename=Political%20Guidelines%202024-2029_EN.pdf

⁴ Regulation (EU) 2022/991 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 8 June 2022 amending Regulation (EU) 2016/794, as regards Europol's cooperation with private parties, the processing of personal data by Europol in support of criminal investigations, and Europol's role in research and innovation, OJ L 169, 27.6.2022, p. 1–42.

⁵ https://home-affairs.ec.europa.eu/networks/eu-knowledge-hub-prevention-radicalisation_en