(English version)

Question for written answer E-000714/26
to the Commission
Charlie Weimers (ECR), Dick Erixon (ECR), Beatrice Timgren (ECR)
(19 February 2026)

Subject: EU funding for mosques

Several European countries have closed mosques and Islamic centres after it came to light that they were being used as instruments of radicalisation, recruitment and terrorist financing. In 2024, the German authorities closed four mosques because they were engaged in anti-constitutional and extremist activities ([1]). In France, the Assalam mosque was closed recently after its leaders called for terrorism and violence against non-Muslims ([2]). In Austria, seven mosques have been closed on the grounds of extremism ([3]).

At the same time, there is extensive evidence that mosques across Europe have been used to recruit fighters for Islamic State ([4]).

With the above in mind:

Can the Commission confirm that no EU funds have been or are being used to build, maintain or support mosques and Islamic centres?

Submitted: 19.2.2026

Answer given by Mr Brunner on behalf of the European Commission
(4 June 2026)

EU funds are not used to support activities of mosques, Islamic centres or other places of worship. The European Regional Development Fund (ERDF) supports the restoration and valorisation of cultural heritage, recognising its contribution to socioeconomic and territorial cohesion and its role in addressing identified local needs in the Member States.

Across the 2014-2020 and 2021-2027 programming periods, only a limited number of EU-supported projects focused on the preservation of historic mosque buildings, most of them former or repurposed structures, to preserve and safeguard architectural heritage.

For example, based on the Kohesio database, three former mosques were renovated in Greece and one active mosque in Poland that also serves as a Tatar cultural centre.

In accordance with Article 3(2)(c) of Regulation (EU) 2021/1149 ([1]), the Internal Security Fund (ISF) is to contribute to the specific objective of supporting the strengthening of Member States' capabilities to prevent and combat crime, terrorism and radicalisation, as well as to manage security-related incidents.

In that regard, the ISF supports the implementation of the ProtectEU: Agenda to prevent and counter terrorism ([2]), including through enhancing the protection of places of worship of all faiths.

In the context of shared management, Member States shall ensure that ERDF and ISF support is in line with the EU fundamental rights, equality, and non-discrimination as per Article 9 of the common provisions Regulation (EU) 2021/1060 ([3]).

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1 Federal Ministry of the Interior (2024), https://www.bmi.bund.de/SharedDocs/pressemitteilungen/EN/2024/07/exekutive3-en.html.
2 Le Dauphiné Libéré (2026), https://www.ledauphine.com/faits-divers-justice/2026/02/16/eloge-du-djihad-arme-ideologie-islamiste-radicale-la-mosquee-assalam-fermee-pendant-six-mois-sur-decision-prefectorale.
3 The Local (2018), https://www.thelocal.at/20180611/austrian-muslims-denounce-decision-to-close-mosques-and-expel-imams.
4 Combating Terrorism Center (2017), https://ctc.westpoint.edu/the-berlin-attack-and-the-abu-walaa-islamic-state-recruitment-network/; News Lines Magazine (2022), https://newlinesmag.com/essays/from-afghanistan-to-syria-the-deadly-legacy-of-belgiums-jihadists/; El Pais (2016), https://english.elpais.com/elpais/2016/10/25/inenglish/1477383332_121178.html.

([1]) Regulation (EU) 2021/1149 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 7 July 2021 establishing the Internal Security Fund, OJ L 251, 15.7.2021, pp. 94, ELI: http://data.europa.eu/eli/reg/2021/1149/oj.

([2]) COM(2026) 101 final: https://home-affairs.ec.europa.eu/eu-agenda-preventing-and-countering-terrorism-and-violent-extremism_en.

([3]) https://eur-lex.europa.eu/eli/reg/2021/1060/oj/eng.