

(English version)

**Question for written answer E-000890/26
to the Commission
Siegbert Frank Droese (ESN)
(4 March 2026)**

Subject: Mass exodus from the al-Hol camp in Syria

What specific information does the Commission have on the mass exodus of individuals with links to IS from the al-Hol camp in Syria, in particular with regard to nationals of Member States, and what measures are being taken at EU level to minimise the resulting security risks for the European Union?

Submitted: 4.3.2026

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

The Commission is aware of the outflow of individuals with links to the Islamic State from the al-Hol camp and is monitoring the situation closely. In accordance with Article 4(2) of the Treaty on European Union ⁽¹⁾, national security remains the sole responsibility of the Member States. The Commission does not possess operational information on these individuals, including on whether there are nationals of Member States among them.

The EU supports Member States through measures strengthening border security, including the Schengen Information System (SIS) ⁽²⁾, where competent authorities of Member States can insert alerts on wanted or sought persons, including known individuals from the camps, as well as the Entry/Exit System ⁽³⁾. The new Screening Regulation ⁽⁴⁾, applicable from June 2026, will further enhance security by requiring Member States to identify and screen all irregular migrants and asylum seekers against EU information systems. Moreover, in accordance with the mandate of the European Union Agency for Law Enforcement Cooperation (Europol), Europol ⁽⁵⁾ supports actions of the competent authorities of Member States in preventing and combating terrorism and serious crime.

The EU as co-lead of the Global Coalition to Defeat Da'esh is also working with international partners — including Syria, which has joined the Coalition in November 2025 — in countering Da'esh, while also supporting efforts to stabilise the situation in the North East Syria camps.

On 26 February 2026, the Commission presented the Agenda to prevent and counter terrorism ⁽⁶⁾, outlining actions to strengthen Europe's response to evolving terrorist threats. These include a new SIS information alert and strengthened cooperation and information sharing on individuals potentially posing a terrorist or violent extremist threat.

⁽¹⁾ https://eur-lex.europa.eu/resource.html?uri=cellar:2bf140bf-a3f8-4ab2-b506-fd71826e6da6.0023.02/DOC_1&format=PDF.

⁽²⁾ <https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/?uri=celex%3A32018R1860>; <https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/?uri=CELEX:32018R1861&qid=1706721891286>; <https://eur-lex.europa.eu/eli/reg/2018/1862/oj/eng>.

⁽³⁾ <https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/?uri=CELEX%3A32025R1534&qid=1759832232382>.

⁽⁴⁾ <https://eur-lex.europa.eu/eli/reg/2024/1356/oj/eng>.

⁽⁵⁾ <https://eur-lex.europa.eu/eli/reg/2016/794/oj/eng>.

⁽⁶⁾ https://home-affairs.ec.europa.eu/eu-agenda-preventing-and-countering-terrorism-and-violent-extremism_en.