

EN

E-001126/2026

Answer given by Mr Brunner
on behalf of the European Commission
(1.6.2026)

The Commission is very attentive to the impact of external conflicts and geopolitical events on EU's internal security and is closely monitoring the evolution of the terrorist and extremist threat stemming from the conflict in the Middle East, relying on threat assessments produced by the EU Intelligence and Situation Centre and analysis from the EU Agency for Law Enforcement Cooperation (Europol). While the terrorist threat was already high in the EU, Europol has reported a heightened security threat since the beginning of the conflict in Iran, that is duly taken into account.

According to the Treaties, national security remains the sole responsibility of each Member State¹. The Commission is not competent for the cooperation between national security services. ProtectEU², the European Internal Security Strategy of April 2025, encourages enhanced intelligence-sharing at EU level through the Single Intelligence Analysis Capacity, to improve EU-wide situational awareness and support informed policy work at EU level.

Under the umbrella of ProtectEU, the Commission adopted on 26 February 2026 a new Agenda to prevent and combat terrorism³ that sets out a comprehensive strategic framework. It fully takes into account the importance of the external dimension and proposes specific measures to tackle the spillover effects of geopolitical developments on the EU's terrorism threat landscape. In parallel, the initiatives foreseen under the Action Plan⁴ of the Pact for the Mediterranean will strengthen regional-level security cooperation with partner countries, as well as contribute to establishing new cooperation channels and hence increase situational awareness and operational preparedness in the EU and the Member States.

¹ Article 4(2) of the Treaty on European Union.

² Communication from the Commission to the European Parliament, the Council, the European Economic and Social Committee and the Committee of the Regions on ProtectEU: a European Internal Security Strategy; COM/2025/148 final.

³ Communication from the Commission to the European Parliament, the Council, the European Economic and Social Committee of the Regions ProtectEU: Agenda to prevent and counter terrorism; COM/2026/101 final.

⁴ https://north-africa-middle-east-gulf.ec.europa.eu/news/eu-presents-first-action-plan-under-pact-mediterranean-2026-04-17_en.