

(English version)

**Question for written answer E-002712/26
to the Commission**

Daniele Polato (ECR), Michele Picaro (ECR), Sergio Berlato (ECR), Alberico Gambino (ECR), Francesco Torselli (ECR), Mariateresa Vivaldini (ECR), Carlo Ciccio (ECR), Chiara Gemma (ECR)
(30 June 2026)

Subject: Recent developments in Denmark concerning Islamic prayers in public spaces

Denmark's Minister of the Interior and Migration, Morten Bødskov, recently made headlines because of his strong attack on public Muslim worship in the country. This is not the first time that the Danish Government has adopted such a stance.

According to reports, Mr Bødskov lambasted the local Muslim community's attempts at worshipping in public, threatened to ban these practices and stated that 'we must protect Denmark from Islamisation, which already enjoys excessive public visibility' and that 'certain neighbourhoods look like suburbs of Islamabad' ⁽¹⁾.

Though respect for religious denominations is a cornerstone of European democracy, the Danish Government's position is symptomatic of a widely acknowledged issue: the religious radicalisation of certain sections of society.

In the light of the above:

1. How does the Commission view the Danish Social Democratic Government's threat to ban Islamic prayers in public spaces?
2. Does it believe that this type of initiative could contribute to the fight against Islamic radicalisation, which is on the rise in a number of European countries?
3. Can the Commission say whether — and if so, how — it is monitoring Islamic radicalisation in the Member States, and whether it has a strategy to combat it?

Submitted: 30.6.2026

Answer given by Mr Brunner on behalf of the European Commission
(16 September 2026)

The Commission does not comment on statements attributed to individual national politicians.

As per Article 4 of the Treaty on European Union responsibility for maintaining law and order rests with Member States ⁽¹⁾. Freedom of thought, conscience and religion is enshrined in Article 10 of the Charter of Fundamental Rights of the European Union ⁽²⁾.

The Commission follows relevant analyses and reports prepared by Member States and relevant organisations on radicalisation, such as EU Agency for Law Enforcement Cooperation, and supports exchanges of expertise where appropriate, notably through the EU Knowledge Hub on Prevention of Radicalisation ⁽³⁾.

On 26 February 2026, the Commission presented a new agenda to prevent and counter terrorism, including preventing radicalisation ⁽⁴⁾.

¹ <https://www.kristeligt-dagblad.dk/danmark/tredje-s-minister-vil-undersoege-forbud-mod-boennekald> <https://nyheder.tv2.dk/live/politik/2025-08-11-dansk-politik/tredje-s-minister-vil-undersoege-forbud-mod-boennekald?entry=94c8c5e7-68d1-49b7-b480-83eab4a28847>
<https://politiken.dk/danmark/art10893698/Tredje-S-minister-vil-unders%C3%B8ge-forbud-mod-b%C3%B8ennekald>

⁽¹⁾ <https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/HTML/?uri=CELEX%3A12008M004>.

⁽²⁾ <https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/HTML/?uri=CELEX:12012P/TXT>.

⁽³⁾ https://home-affairs.ec.europa.eu/networks/eu-knowledge-hub-prevention-radicalisation_en.

⁽⁴⁾ https://home-affairs.ec.europa.eu/protecteu-agenda-prevent-and-counter-terrorism_en.