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„Entrepreneurs d'une Europe de Demain “



## European Parliamentary Debate about terrorism

Mr President, ladies and gentleman,

First of all I would like to point out in this meeting that in this particular historic moment we are not living in a zero risk context.

We can rejoice and be proud of the results obtained so far, but we can not deny that we are always in danger.

Therefore, all our activities must be aimed at one goal: the reduction of the risk, knowing that the great Western and non-Western democracies and non-democracies, have been attacked all over the world.

Italy responded promptly to the terrorist threat emerging after 11 September 2001, in keeping with the pertinent resolutions adopted by the United Nations and with the various regulatory instruments adopted by the EU.

Urgent measures were adopted, through Law No. 438/2001, for the prevention and prosecution of crimes committed for the purposes of international terrorism.

It is the CSF's task to prevent terrorist organisations from using the Italian financial system. It coordinates Italy's efforts to halt the financing of terrorism, and is authorised to freeze the assets of individuals or organisations associated with terrorist organisations.

Italy has ratified all 12 international Conventions against terrorism and strongly supports the actions of the CTC (the Counter-Terrorism Committee).

Furthermore, Italy provides a decisive contribution to the Sanctions Committee against Al Qaeda and the Taliban. Since April 2002 it has presented eight proposals for over 85 terrorist individuals and 14 terrorist organisations to be listed by the Committee's. Italy is in second place, after the United States, in terms of the number of proposals for additions to the list.

Italian Prime Minister Matteo Renzi asked the European Parliament to found a pact with all the European member states to fight together against terrorism both of his own country and for the European community.

### **The UE counter-terrorism strategy**

Ladies and Gentlemen, now we will talk about the the UE counter-terrorism strategy

Terrorism is not a new phenomenon in Europe. It is a Threat to Our Security, for Values of Our Society and Democratic Rights and Liberties of the European Citizens. For this reason a European Union Counter-Terrorism Strategy was made in 2001.

You know that this Strategy was based on 4 principal actions:

- 1. PREVENT**
- 2. PROTECT**
- 3. PERSUE**
- 4. RESPOND**

1. To prevent people turning to terrorism by tackling the factors or root causes which can lead to radicalization and recruitment, in Europe and internationally.

2. To protect citizens and infrastructure and reduce all vulnerability to attack, including through improved security of borders, transport and critical infrastructure.

3. To pursue and investigate terrorists across our borders and globally; to impede planning, travel, and communications; to disrupt support networks; to cut off funding and access to attack materials, and bring terrorists to justice.

4. To prepare ourselves, in the spirit of solidarity, to manage and minimize the consequences of a terrorist attack, by improving capabilities to deal with: the aftermath; the co-ordination of the response; and the needs of victims.

Is this strategy still valid today? Has it brought good results? Is it necessary to keep it or to change it? These are the questions that we must answer today.

We believe that this strategy is still valid, but it is not enough yet.

**In light of** the above **considerations** we believe that it is necessary to take the following additional measures to implement the ones proposed at the European level in the 2004:

- 1) a greater surveillance on the streets of the European cities by hundreds more intelligence officers and police, and better equipment for security services to ensure the safety of all inhabitants.
- 2) the strengthening of the monitoring on public urban transport by additional equipments
- 3) A new security plan aimed to a greater protection of European historical and cultural heritages
- 4) the foundation of an International organisation to help European countries affected by terrorism because “union is strength”
- 5) much more rigorous controls at the airport and very severe punitive actions against screening personnel not applying them and against their employers.

( In fact, even now, there are very dangerous failures in the security system for screening personnel's in attentiveness and lack of motivation and it is possible to cross the luggage check point with bottles of liquid sand to board a plane with another person's boarding pass in some European airports because the airport security personnel of the luggage check point doesn't inspect passengers' identity card and travel documents to speed up the queues.

Unfortunately we have personally experienced that during our last mobility).

How can we take the additional measures we are proposing?

It's very simple.

First of all it is necessary that all the cities of each European country work together to increase roads, airports and transport safety.

The Italian Government proposes a greater cooperation to lovers of art to defend the cultural and artistic European Heritage .

“UNION IS STRENGTH”: Therefore the Italian Government asks you to remain united to fight against terrorism.

The Italian government that I represent wants to remember the words said during an interview by a father to give courage to his frightened child after Paris attacks.

The boy said to his father "Dad, they have guns. How can we do to fight them?"

The father replied " They might have guns but we have flowers".

So we invite you to live your life.

We must be vigilant but we must not be influenced by terrorist events .

Therefore, the Italian government says to you:

"WE MUST NOT SURRENDER..

WE MUST NOT LET FEAR WIN.

WE MUST REMAIN UNITED IN COMBATING TERRORISM"

Thanks for the attention.