

Fight against terrorism – Measures taken by the Federal Government

Plenary session of the Chamber – 19 November 2015

A political agreement has been reached on the following topics.

1. Additional budgetary effort – amendment to the Budget 2016: **400 million € for security and the fight against terrorism** (in addition to 200 million € of investment already realized in 2015, 40 million € foreseen for the State Security Service and 100 additional million € released for the Ministry of Defense).
2. Reinforcement of **police controls at the borders**.
3. Deployment of **520 military** to reinforce security.
4. Revision of the Penal Code – **Particular research methods**. New technologies for the intelligence services (voice recognition, expansion of wiretapping including arms trafficking).
5. Revision of the Constitution – **72 hours of administrative detention for acts of terrorism instead of 24 hours**. Modification of article 12 of the Constitution.
6. **House searches 24 hours a day** for terrorist offenses – Amendment of the law. End of the exception forbidding house searches between 21:00 (9pm) and 05:00 (5am).
7. **Foreign fighters** –Principle : deprivation of liberty & jailed upon return to Belgium.
8. **Persons registered by the security services** : Electronic bracelet for people who are registered by the threat analysis services: an adversarial procedure will be introduced in order to impose electronic control bracelets.
9. Belgian **PNR (Passenger Name Record)**– keeping passenger data from flights and high-speed trains. Without waiting for the European project, Belgium will apply systematic controls on the registration of all passengers on planes and high-speed trains.
10. **Exclusion of hate preachers**. Screening of all those preaching hate in order to place them under house arrest, deprive them of their liberty or to expel them.
11. **Dismantling of unrecognized places of worship** which propagate jihadism.
12. **End of anonymity for pre-paid cards**.

13. Plan **Molenbeek** - prevention and repression.
14. **Reinforcement of the screening** before access to sensitive jobs.
15. Extension of the network of **cameras recognizing license plates**.
16. **Closing down websites** preaching hate.
17. Evaluation in order to adapt legislations linked to the **state of emergency**. Possibility for temporary and exceptional measures to ensure public safety.
18. **Participation in the international fight against IS**. Frigate Leopold I: escorting mission of the French aircraft carrier “Charles de Gaulle”. Air strikes in rotation with the Netherlands.

In addition to the 12 measures decided in January 2015 and already in force:

- (1) Insertion in the penal code of a new terrorist offense, relating to travel abroad for terrorist purposes
- (2) Extension of the list of offenses leading to the use of specific research methods (article 90-ter of the Code of Criminal Procedure)
- (3) More options for withdrawal of Belgian citizenship.
- (4) Temporary withdrawal of the identity card, refusal to issue and withdrawal of passports
- (5) Structural reform of the Intelligence and security structures. Establishment of a National Security Council
- (6) Activation of the legally established mechanism to identify persons involved in the financing of terrorism and whose assets will be frozen
- (7) Revision of the “Foreign Fighters” circular note of 25 September 2014
- (8) Optimization of the exchanges of information between the authorities and the administrative and judicial services – (in progress)
- (9) Revision of the “R Plan”. Revision of the 2005 plan against radicalization has been accelerated to take into account recent developments.
- (10) Fight against radicalism in prisons
- (11) Calling in the Belgian army for specific monitoring missions.
- (12) Strengthening of the capacity of the State Security Service and transfer of the VIP protection to the federal police – (in progress)