

Reinsalu: proposal to ban semiautomatic guns for civilian use is not suitable for Estonia and Finland

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ISIS has started war on European soil. Counterstrike of France and allies does mean logically, that fight with terror will be more intensive and unfortunately danger of terroristic crimes will rise all over European continent. Accordingly have many states raised their terror alert level and started counter-terror operations.

In war with terror there are multiple facts we have to keep in mind protecting security of Estonian people. First, Islamic extremism is seedbed of terror. And thousands of man from Europe have gone to become terror warriors. Radicalization will continue and comparative experience shows us clearly: it's possible to prevent it in early phase and the stronger are the actions, the effective they are.

Two weeks ago started a trial over 2 men, who are accused in supporting terrorism. In the other words: Islamic radicalism is already in Estonia and we have our connections to terror. Fortunately, not on Estonian soil.

Fact is, that ISIS has added Estonia to their enemies list. In this war enemy is hidden and is fighting for consciousness of our youth. Radicalization has to be controlled first of all in religious groups, in schools and in prisons. And it's most effective in early phase. Our message to extremist should be: you are not welcome here, we won't let you to brainwash our youth and we will use power against you. Our police forces have to have proper legal tools for that. I have initiated the widening of terror crimes coverage in our Penal Code also to traveling in terroristic purpose, terrorist training and to helping somebody to travel in terroristic purpose.

Wrong are those, who are saying, that terror threat in Europe and uncontrollable stream of immigration are not related. They are. And to lower that threat, the external borders of Europe must be under control.

As we could see from terror acts in Paris, the terrorists could easily move over borders in Europe. Such a possibilities have to be excluded. For that more effective exchange of data of travelers and sentenced persons is needed. It is good, that interior ministers yesterday agreed it principally.

There is a risk to overreact during dramatic events. One example is to ban civilian use of semi-automatic weapons in Europe. It could put in danger possibility of decentralization of weapons in states, who are relying on reserve army or defense league. I just talked about it with Finnish minister of Justice and we came to common conclusion, that this proposal is not suitable for Estonia and Finland. Isn't it weird to start war on terror, confiscating weapons from them, who should be protecting us.

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