Statement by the Committee on Justice 2015/16:JuU26

Subsidiarity check of proposal amending the EU's Firearms Directive

Summary

The Committee considers that the Commission's proposal amending the EU's Firearms Directive conflicts, in several parts, with the principle of subsidiarity, and it therefore proposes that the Riksdag submit a reasoned opinion to the Presidents of the European Parliament, the Council and the Commission.

The security issues that are dealt with in the Firearms Directive are of a cross-border nature and of such a nature that they cannot be dealt with by the individual member states. In order to be able to guarantee a high level of security and to regulate the cross-border flow of firearms, measures at EU level are required. In the opinion of the Committee, however, all aspects do not require detailed regulation in all the areas proposed by the Commission. Even if the proposal is compliant with the principle of subsidiarity at a general level, the Committee considers that it conflicts with the principle in several parts.

The Statement contains one reservation from the Sweden Democrats.

The examined proposal

Proposal for a Directive of the European Parliament and of the Council amending Council Directive 91/477/EEC on control of the acquisition and possession of weapons (COM(2015)750).