

**Speaking Note
Khoen Liem**

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Role of 'Private Security' in creating jobs and growth

Distinguish Ladies and gentlemen,

1. It is a pleasure for me to speak here today, representing Francisco Gaztelu (who sends his warmest regards). Francisco regrets that he has to make a 'last minute' change in his agenda; we then did our best to re-shuffle our agendas and thank you for re-shuffling this conference agenda too, to let me speak earlier. Knowing Francesco, he would have enjoyed discussing with you **'the role of Private Security Companies in creating jobs and growth'** in Europe.
2. Francisco would say that: "**Without Security, Economies dysfunction**".
3. And indeed, if we feel threaten – insecure – unprotected, then instinctively we restrict our activity. Without security, our societies will not strive towards economic growth or creating jobs in large quantities or strive for a better place in the global economy. We will mal-function in the 'flat-world' as Thomas Friedman would say (in his book 'the world is flat').

4. If one of the basic human needs is 'security' and if this is missing, then instinctively we tend to focus on 'making security'. And if every individual is too busy taking care of his/her and the family's own security, then individuals stop functioning as part of the globalised world economy. **Without 'security' we cease to be a part of the 'flat world'; we would be too busy 'making walls around us'.**
5. Some scholars say that *that* exactly is what the terrorists want.
6. So, to be efficient, 'security' must be a commonly available good. And you would expect public hands to be providers of common goods.
7. However, in the age of PPP – public-private-partnership, we must also look for other efficient ways of providing 'security'.
 - Here comes the need for Private Security Services.
 - But for a PPP to be successful, a clear definition of the work sharing must be worked out.
 - And, we need a common set of standards: -technical, -operational but also -ethical.
 - Above all, we need a clearly defined 'code of conduct' for Private Security Services. Such 'code of conduct' should be endorsed by the citizen in a public debate.

8. Let us now ask the question: ‘why the EU should care about security’. The answer is simple: ‘70% of the citizens of the European Union expect from Europe more security’. They fully comprehend that threats have become quite various, are beyond national, and require the EU acting collectively.
9. To substantiate this point, I like to remind you on two important factors. These are:
 - *‘The fight’* our society is having against the security threats is extremely *asymmetrical* (it requires relatively few determined people with a relatively small budget to plan and execute a specific terrorist’s attack and always our response is thousands –if not millions– times more elaborate) so we cannot engage in this war with the usual strategies.

and,

- In our most advanced *‘PostModern’* society called the EU, we have successfully knocked down barriers to better let desired flows (all kind of good flows: -goods, -people, -money, etc) happen, internal within the EU and external to the EU. The problem here is that in aiding 'good flows', we also allow 'bad flows' to happen. The devastating facts of human trafficking are one example of the 'bad flow'.

10. In our *PostModern* EU society we should counter these 'threats' with **all means** available to the EU. The EU is very capable of delivering a very 'comprehensive' response to its security threats. However, "**advancing European Security Strategy**" remains an ambitious political challenge.
11. One of the key factors for the credibility and effectiveness of security policy is a strong privately owned manufacturing and service providing industrial basis. Another key factor is the technology base.
12. Technology plays an important role in security.
- On one side, our dependence on technologies makes us more vulnerable,
 - On the other side we can not have security without technology.
13. Even though **technology cannot guarantee security**, there is **no security without technology**. With this understanding, Europe will need join forces for a solid, competitive technological base for its security industry
14. Security is a major economic factor. The effects of terrorism and organised crime go far beyond the immediate costs. They lead to significantly increased inefficiency, such as -hindered mobility; it ties up personnel and financial resources and finally

diminishes the willingness for investments and its results inhibit propensity to consume.

15. We need a serious increase in effectiveness and efficiency in the way we deal with security – given the extreme asymmetry as I said before.

16. For that, we need to **‘enlarge the context’** as how security is provided to the citizen.

17. While it is easy to understand the role of Private Security Services in providing guards at building entrances, or to control 'hooligans' during a football game, its role in conflict zones is and might remain controversial.

18. At least this is controversial for certain roles; and you might agree with me that in principle this might be the case for direct combatant roles.

19. There is a certain civil society expectation that the ultimate monopoly of 'Staatsgewalt' must remain under democratic control, thus can not be privatised.

20. I felt the need to address these extreme cases; and I am sure that they will remain extreme cases – also in terms of jobs creation at the Private Security Companies.

21. The societal *acceptance* and *expectance* of Private Security Companies will depend on how it develop its role while standing

side by side to Public bodies and supporting the security needs of the society. A clear definition of the 'division of roles' is necessary. A code of conduct for Private Security Services is necessary and must be reflected in the statutes.

22. At the end, the continuing – and the sustaining of – strong growth in the Private Security sector will depend on societal *acceptance* and on how it is meeting its *expectance*.

23. With this in mind, I like to close by making the remark, that the public image we ought to give is: **'it is through *Security* that we create jobs and economical growth and not through *insecurity*'**.

24. Ladies and gentleman thank you very much for your attention; I wish you an excellent conference.