

## I. Thesis

Standardisation

Should preventative technology measures be standardised and made mandatory for all homes?

If so, how should such measures be implemented?

If not, what other methods must we continue to develop?

« Standards are imposed for insulation so why not for burglary!»

## II. Discussion

### Group 3:

It is impossible to standardise technology measures: each home is different. In addition, it is very difficult to force the citizen to take security measures - everyone is free to do so or not.

In the case of obligation, it is also necessary to plan for sanctions and controls; this is not feasible. Furthermore, not everyone has the means to take security measures. It would also be necessary to work with standards and standardise local allowances.

HOWEVER it could be interesting to impose a minimum basis for security for rented apartments because it is often the last concern of the owner. However this also has an adverse effect: a rent increase for the tenant. It should at least be the case that the owner allows the tenant to secure the property if they wish to, so for example to make adaptations to the entrance door,...

It is also a problem for new constructions and renovations, which are disasters in terms of security. Architects are not interested and neither are planning authorities.

### Group 2:

Prevention is not expensive in comparison to the harm caused by a theft and the risk to life. In the end, the cost of a theft for the community is enormous: population, insurance,...

A security label with different grades should be provided just as with energy audits. Each person chooses whether or not to take the necessary security measures. Basic security measures are feasible in terms of cost. In this case, the allowances must be standardised.

This label and the visit by the domestic burglary prevention consultant, should be imposed in the case of sale, construction and property for rent. Note: when an audit is paid for, we take the recommended measures seriously. With the visit by domestic burglary prevention consultant being free, it will perhaps have less impact. The new owner will therefore have full knowledge of the weaknesses of their home.

When there is no domestic burglary prevention consultant in a zone: impose a minimum domestic burglary prevention consultant in each zone. However it is also important that they exercise their function regularly at the risk of not being a specialist.

The label should be imposed via town planning regulation.

It is also essential to raise awareness among architects. Similarly, to raise awareness of prevention among citizens at the time of registration in the commune and with the visit of the neighbourhood police officer.

#### Group 1:

Basic security measures are essential: security lock, security escutcheon,... It should be imposed via planning regulations for new buildings and renovations. The control can be carried out by regions in the context of the granting of subsidies. This is currently already the case in terms of subsidies for renovation. In addition, it is advisable to collaborate more with insurance companies. They may also carry out checks since they impose measures in certain cases. What about the real cost of a burglary?

The minimum is to impose the visit by the domestic burglary prevention consultant at the time where people return their permit application. What about the follow-up for the theft prevention advisors? A domestic burglary prevention consultant could be hired full-time by the municipal planning department. Or a member of the planning department could undergo theft prevention advisor training.

A study carried out in Liège and Limbourg shows that secured homes are in 70% of cases only victims of attempts and not successful thefts.

It is important to redefine the tasks of the police: lots of prevention = less work for the police.

#### Group 4:

It is not necessary to impose measures but rather the visit by the theft prevention advisor or advice at the planning stage for new constructions. To impose basic measures has limits, notably with regard to monitoring.

The quality label also has its limits, because insurance companies may impose higher premiums.

Security must automatically be the subject of a course for architects. Many architects have embarked on energy audits so why not in relation to burglary.

### **III. Conclusions**

The conclusions are based on the opinions of different groups:

- Not to impose anything because security varies from one residence to the next  
What about control / sanctions / cost for the citizen?
- Impose a visit by the domestic burglary prevention consultant at the time of:
  - o Construction
  - o Purchase

- Registration with the commune

The citizen decides whether or not to implement the measures

- To impose a visit by domestic burglary prevention consultant in order to obtain a quality label with different grades at the time of :
  - Construction
  - Sale
  - Rental

What about the capacity of the domestic burglary prevention consultant within the zones?

- Planning regulations to impose basic security measures during construction/renovation.  
To be based on European standards and collaborate with regions and insurance companies

#### **IV. Action points**

- Meet with regions
- Feasibility study for imposition of theft prevention advisor visit or basic standards in planning regulations
- Pursue awareness-raising among architects, insurance companies, planning services...



With financial support from the Prevention of and Fight against Crime Programme of the  
European Union  
European Commission – Directorate-General Home Affairs

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