Question for written answer E-009755/2014 to the Commission Rule 130 Ernest Maragall (Verts/ALE)

Subject: New electronic ticket system for Turkish football

Football matches have been played in front of empty stadiums this year in Turkey.

As of April 2014, a new compulsory e-ticket system, which includes the identity details of the supporter on one side and a photograph on the other, has become the sole means by which the public can attend football matches, pushing groups of supporters to boycott games in protest.

Moreover, clubs that do not apply the e-ticket system will be fined 100 000 Turkish lira for each game.

The new electronic card is supposed to combat hooliganism. However, following the recent passing of a law criminalising the shouting of political slogans in sports stadiums, the new e-ticket system risks undermining data privacy.

1. What is the Commission's opinion on this matter?

The Turkish Constitution deems the protection of privacy and personal data to be a fundamental right based on a 2010 amendment. However, Turkey has not yet passed a general data protection law. As part of the EU accession process, Turkey should aim to provide the same level of data protection as the EU.

2. Is the Commission aware of any progress regarding the Draft Data Privacy Code prepared by the Turkish Ministry of Justice in 2005?

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