Question for written answer E-010667/2014 to the Commission Rule 130 Hugues Bayet (S&D)

Subject: Estonian e-residency

On 1 December 2014, the Estonian Law on Electronic Commerce entered into force. This law enables foreigners to obtain an identity card with a microchip from Estonian embassies, for a cost of EUR 50, with no requirement to be a European citizen. Although this card does not bestow upon the holder the right to movement, travel or residency within Estonia, it does enable these 'e-residents' to 'access various online service and serves as a digital signature', according to *Courrier International*. For example, these 'e-residents' can use their e-residency 'to sign documents or conducts commercial or administrative actions, such as creating a company'.

Has the Commission been made aware of this scheme? What is its reaction to this Estonian initiative? Does it envisage similar measures at European level in the future?

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