

**Question for written answer E-010717/2014/rev.1
to the Commission**
Rule 130
Patrick Le Hyaric (GUE/NGL)

Subject: Bill expanding the right to order surveillance in Spain

The Spanish Council of Ministers has adopted a bill that enables the Ministry of the Interior to order surveillance (of telephone, written and online communications) in certain 'particularly serious' 'emergency situations'.

Until now, the police have been allowed to intercept private communications in certain circumstances without any requirement to obtain advance authorisation from a court, but only as part of an investigation into terrorism or organised crime. It will now become possible to authorise the interception of private information for a period of three months, which may be renewed.

1. Is the Commission aware of this bill?
2. In the context of judicial cooperation in criminal matters, does the Commission intend to seek guarantees in relation to respecting people's rights?