Question for written answer E-001264/2015 to the Commission Rule 130 Rachida Dati (PPE)

Subject: Reforming ECRIS

Established in 2012, the European Criminal Records Information System (ECRIS), which the national courts of the EU Member States are responsible for implementing, has proven to be an excellent means of facilitating the efficient, simple and quick exchange of information relating to the offending history of convicted criminals in Union countries.

Specifically, the system provides the relevant authorities of the Member States with access to the past convictions of all EU citizens.

Although the system does offer some genuine benefits, there is still room for improvement. Recent events have demonstrated the need to think and act at all levels.

In the light of Gilles de Kerchove's proposals, two courses of action can be envisaged. The only way third-country nationals' criminal records can be shared under the current system is by consulting each Member State individually. The alternative is an index limited to certain categories of crime.

Given the above, does the Commission intend to propose a reform to ECRIS with a view to improving judicial cooperation between the Member States?

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