

**Question for written answer E-004620/2015
to the Commission**
Rule 130
Hugues Bayet (S&D)

Subject: Pirating of Gemalto SIM cards: Fuck the EU - again?

On 19 February 2015, the online magazine *The Intercept* broke the news of the pirated Gemalto SIM cards and informed us that the American and British secret services were yet again spying illegally on our telephone conversations.

1. The many precedents show that the US secret services obviously have no intention of stopping this practice.
2. The question arises whether the United Kingdom, which has been a Member State since 1973, was aware of these practices.
3. If the EU does not respond, point 2 of the Juncker Agenda, which concerns the digital single market, will be directly threatened.
4. Point 7 of that Agenda reads: 'in view of recent mass surveillance revelations, close partners such as the United States must convince us that the current safe harbour arrangements really are safe if they want them to continue. They must also guarantee that all EU citizens have the right to enforce data protection rights in US courts, whether or not they reside on US soil. This will be essential for restoring trust in transatlantic relations.'

What is the Commission's opinion of these contentions?