

**Question for written answer E-006654/2016  
to the Commission**

Rule 130

**Dominique Bilde (ENF)**

Subject: Mobile apps and personal data protection

The global expansion in mobile telephony, with around seven billion subscriptions sold and approximately three-quarters of the world's population now in possession of a mobile phone, has led to the development of mobile apps. They cover almost every area and interest imaginable, such as music, dating, banking, games, etc.

A number of app companies are unlawfully profiting from the data they collect, however. They often use personal consumption data or photos, even after the accounts have been deactivated. This applies to dating apps Tinder and Happn, as well as to the running app Runkeeper, and to Facebook. Moreover, some apps that are supposed to be blocked to children can be accessed by them with little difficulty.

In France, the National Commission for Data Protection and Liberties (CNIL) has issued a formal warning to Microsoft about its data collection practices.

What measures will the Commission take to uphold the right to privacy and personal data protection in Europe in the light of the unlawful practices employed by some mobile app companies?