

**Question for written answer E-007589/2016  
to the Commission**  
Rule 130  
**José Blanco López (S&D)**

Subject: Breaches of data protection

We have just learned that the Hamburg Commissioner for Data Protection and Freedom of Information has prohibited the transfer and storage by Facebook of WhatsApp user data as set out in the updated WhatsApp user and privacy guidelines issued by Facebook, which owns the platform.

As indicated by the Commissioner, Facebook and WhatsApp are two independent companies and, following the acquisition of the latter by the former, they gave a public undertaking that they would not share their data.

What view does the Commission take of the above decision and what is its position regarding the changes to the user and privacy guidelines and their compliance with EU privacy and personal data protection legislation?