

**Question for written answer E-000889/2017/rev.1
to the Commission**

Rule 130

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Subject: Infringement of rights on the protection of personal data

On 26 January 2017, the daily newspaper *El País* published the content of a series of conferences delivered by the then Spanish senator for ERC (Republican Left of Catalonia) and adviser to the Minister for Justice of the *Generalitat de Catalunya* (Regional Government of Catalonia), Santiago Vidal, who claimed that the *Generalitat de Catalunya* had illegally obtained the personal tax data of Spanish citizens residing in the autonomous community. The secretary at the Generalitat's tax office confirmed that the statements were true in December, and explained that its government was going through 130 information sources in order to have a reliable database available in a few months to enable it to address the alleged declaration of independence.

This illegal collection of data is in direct conflict with the Organic Law on Data Protection, Directive 95/46/EC and the Union's General Regulation on Data Protection, and therefore constitutes a serious infringement of citizens' rights.

1. What view does the Commission take of this matter?
2. Is the Commission considering monitoring compliance with European legislation on data protection?