Question for written answer E-002595/2017/rev.1 to the Commission

Rule 130

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Subject: Illegal collection of sensitive data on the local police force in Barcelona by the city council

On 23 February 2017¹, Barcelona City Council officially announced the creation of a database for the 'Management of the Ethics and Internal Affairs Unit of the City Police'. This database contains personal data on members of Barcelona's local police force and other police forces.

It was created to manage procedures concerning confidential information on police officers and to investigate possible disciplinary or criminal offences, disciplinary proceedings and complaints from members of the public regarding the services provided by the city police.

The database includes personal and professional identification data such as civil status, date and place of birth, age, nationality, training, job title and pay grade. It also includes sensitive data such as preferred working language, hobbies, lifestyle, magazine subscriptions, ideology, trade union membership, religious beliefs, racial or ethnic origin, health, and sex life, which constitutes a violation of the Data Protection Act and a breach of fundamental rights.

In this context and in view of Directive 95/46/EC:

- 1. Is the Commission in a position to guarantee the rights of the local police officers affected by the collection of personal data and the illegal creation of a database? If so, how does it intend to do this?
- 2. Does the Commission intend to contact the national authorities with a view to protecting the rights of this group and preventing the dissemination of their personal information?

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