

**Question for written answer E-000474/2018
to the Commission**

Rule 130

Beatriz Becerra Basterrechea (ALDE)

Subject: Spying on non-separatist citizens in Catalonia

The National Police have discovered various documents proving that non-separatist citizens and associations, such as Barcelona con la Selección, Somatemps and Sociedad Civil Catalana have been monitored by the Catalan police in the context of the separatist process.

This monitoring, carried out by the Intelligence Directorate of the Mossos d'Esquadra, lacked any form of judicial authorisation. Last December, documents obtained the National Police revealing the existence of surveillance operations against constitutionalist politicians in Catalonia were made public. This is a clear violation of human rights as laid down in Article 12 of the Universal Declaration.

Given the seriousness of a country's regional police spying on citizens and civil and political associations on account of their ideology, and the violation of the EU Treaties and Charter of Fundamental Rights which this implies:

- (1) Does the Commission consider that these facts constitute a violation of the fundamental rights of the citizens who are monitored without judicial authorisation?
- (2) Will the Commission contact the Spanish authorities to inquire about these cases?
- (3) What action will the Commission require the Spanish authorities to take in order to prevent a recurrence of such violations of fundamental rights of the citizens of a Member State?