Question for written answer E-003861/2018 to the Commission
Rule 130
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Subject: Safety of multimedia toys for children

The digitisation of our everyday lives is progressing. Nowadays it is not only telephones and TV sets but also cars, household appliances and even entire houses that are fitted out with smart systems. These systems work by collecting data on users and processing that data to personalise the devices. Unfortunately, such devices are often not adequately protected and the information they contain may be stolen by third parties.

Devices with insufficient safety features can be extremely dangerous for children. It is multimedia toys, smart watches and webcams that are hacked more and more frequently. Such toys record many details of a child's life, such as his or her image, name, address or even user's exact location. What is worse, the toy can be sometimes accessed by anyone who has Bluetooth on their phone and is close to the child, which exposes them to imminent danger.

There are more and more inadequately protected internet devices on the market, which sooner or later might lead to a serious cybersecurity crisis. Therefore, I would like to ask the Commission whether it is considering implementing legislation obliging multimedia toys manufacturers to use security features in devices connected to the internet.

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