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DRAFT OPINION

of the Committee on Civil Liberties, Justice and Home Affairs

for the Committee on Industry, Research and Energy and the Committee on the Internal Market and Consumer Protection

on Towards a Digital Single Market Act
(2015/2147(INI))

Rapporteur (*): Michał Boni

(*) Associated committee – Rule 54 of the Rules of Procedure

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SUGGESTIONS

The Committee on Civil Liberties, Justice and Home Affairs calls on the Committee on the Internal Market and Consumer Protection and the Committee on Industry, Research and Energy, as the committees responsible, to incorporate the following suggestions into their motion for a resolution:

1. Stresses the need for compliance with data protection legislation of all initiatives developed under the Digital Single Market Strategy; underlines the fact that respect for fundamental rights and data protection are key elements in building citizens' trust and security, which are necessary for a balanced approach allowing the development of the economy and should thus be considered as creating opportunities and a competitive advantage;

3.3.2. Combating illegal content on the internet

2. Calls for measures to tackle illegal content on the internet that will be in compliance with the fundamental right to freedom of expression and information; considers that, in order to achieve that goal, it is necessary to provide appropriate law enforcement tools, to support public-private partnerships and cooperation, to consider the role of intermediaries and to promote education and awareness-raising campaigns;

3.4. Reinforcing trust and security in digital services and in the handling of personal data

3. Highlights the fact that the fast-growing number of attacks on networks and acts of cybercrime calls for a harmonised EU response with a view to ensuring a high level of cybersecurity; believes that providing security on the internet means protecting networks and critical infrastructure, the ability of law enforcement agencies to fight criminality, including terrorism, radicalisation and child pornography, and the use of the necessary data to fight crime online and offline; stresses that security, thus defined, is necessary to reinforce trust in digital services and the processing of personal data;

4.1. Building a data economy

4. Considers that big data, cloud services, the Internet of Things, research and innovation are key to economic development; believes that data protection safeguards and security are crucial for building trust in the data-driven economy sector; stresses the need to raise awareness of the role of data and data-sharing in the economy and to clarify data ownership rules; underlines the role of personalisation of services and products that should be developed as a balanced solution in compliance with data protection requirements; calls for the promotion of privacy by default and by design; underlines the importance of a risk-based approach in data protection legislation, especially for SMEs;

4.2. Boosting competitiveness through interoperability and standardisation

5. Stresses that any processing of personal data through solutions based on interoperability, i.e. operated by the ISA² programme, must comply with the requirements of EU data protection laws; calls for common standards to be developed for the data-driven economy,

which should include security, respect for privacy and data protection;

4.3.2. E-government

6. Supports the digitalisation of public services in Europe and the development of e-government, e-democracy and open data policies based on high data protection standards while ensuring public participation and consultation in these processes, as well as access and reuse of public documents;

5.2. International dimension

7. Calls for steps to be taken to ensure high standards of data protection when pursuing cooperation with the third countries within the Digital Single Market Strategy.