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WRITTEN DECLARATION

pursuant to Rule 123 of the Rules of Procedure

on Google Street View

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Written declaration on Google Street View

The European Parliament,

- having regard to Rule 123 of its Rules of Procedure,
- A. whereas on its Street View, Google publishes images of streets on the internet and plans to extend this to include photos of people,
- B. whereas the EU Data Protection Commission is calling for residents to be informed in advance,
- C. whereas it is usual to obtain prior consent before any publication in the media,
- D. whereas showing images of properties on the web may reveal people's financial situation and local conditions and constitutes a security risk,
- E. whereas the right to object after the event, which obliges those affected actively to find the relevant images on the internet, certainly does not provide sufficient protection of privacy or of the right to informal self-determination,
- 1. Takes the view that there is a potential conflict between Google's actions and EU fundamental rights and that uncontrolled and unlimited storage of raw data (without blurring) infringes EU data protection provisions;
- 2. Calls for at least the height of the cameras to respect existing sight screening (fencing) and, in the event of an objection, for Google itself to be responsible for deleting the relevant data;
- 3. Instructs its President to forward this declaration, together with the name of the signatory, to the parliaments and governments of the Member States and to the Council.