

WRITTEN QUESTION E-2191/09
by Françoise Grossetête (PPE-DE)
to the Commission

Subject: Composition of a group of experts

The Commission has decided to set up a 'group of experts' responsible for considering issues relating to the revision of the 1995 directive on the protection of personal data (Directive 85/46/EC¹). Under the terms of the call for expressions of interest published by the Commission, the group's task will be to assist the Commission in analysing the need for new legislative proposals and in drafting those proposals.

The profile of the members of this group of experts prompts a number of questions: it consists of five persons, four of whom are employed either by US firms or by firms of lawyers which have their headquarters in the United States. Only one member comes from Europe.

What reasons prompted the Commission to appoint these persons to the group of experts, given that the subject to be addressed has a direct bearing on the sovereignty of the EU Member States?

¹ OJ L 281, 23.11.1995, p. 31.