Question for written answer E-010787/2013 to the Commission

Rule 117

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Subject: Article 29 Working Party investigation of the International Air Transport Association (IATA) and the new distribution capability

On 29 May 2013 the authors of this Written Question wrote to the Commission expressing concern about Resolution 787 adopted by the International Air Transport Association (IATA), which includes provisions to develop a new distribution capability (NDC), and the potential it has for infringements on the personal and data protection rights of EU citizens.

In its response, the Commission confirming that its '[has] written to the International Air Transport Association (IATA) to recall the EU applicable legal framework under competition law, data protection law and aviation law' and that it is 'currently analysing the Resolution to understand the nature and implications of the NDC'.

The authors also wrote to Commissioner Reding to highlight the possible implications of the IATA initiative in terms of data protection. In response, Commissioner Reding explained that the Article 29 Working Party is the independent advisor to the Commission on this issue, adding that the Working Party 'decided at its last plenary in late February to take this issue up and investigate the data protection implications. The outcome of this investigation will be the appropriate basis for a discussion on the ways and means of addressing our concerns to IATA'.

Could the Commission provide an update on the investigation conducted by the Article 29 Working Party and the timetable for the investigation, and can it clarify whether the outcome and conclusions of this investigation will be shared with Parliament as soon as it is completed?

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