

**Question for written answer E-001462/2014  
to the Commission**  
Rule 117  
**David Casa (PPE)**

Subject: EU governments accused of illegal spying

As the EU seeks to reach a compromise between Member States in order to develop a data protection package to protect all European citizens, the governments of Germany, the UK and the US have been sued by Chaos Computer Club, the International League for Human Rights (ILHR) and the civil rights group Digitalcourage for illegal spying<sup>1</sup>.

The charges include a 'violation of the right to privacy and obstruction of justice in office by bearing and cooperating with the electronic surveillance of German citizens by NSA and GCHQ.' It is expected that, if the charges are dismissed in the individual countries, the ILHR will file the case with the European Court of Human Rights as a violation of the European Convention on Human Rights.

Could these new developments hinder not only the creation of an EU data protection package, but also the newly strengthened EU-US trade relations?

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<sup>1</sup> <http://www.euractiv.com/infosociety/complaint-filed-merkel-governmen-news-533256>  
<http://www.euractiv.com/infosociety/data-protection-reform-peril-ger-news-532189>