

Question for written answer E-011723/2015
to the Commission
Rule 130
Glenis Willmott (S&D)

Subject: Data protection and the UK draft communications bill

The new UK government has announced that it will introduce a communications bill in the next 5 years. This bill includes measures for mass surveillance, and some of my constituents have expressed concern.

The European Court of Justice ruled last April that the Data Retention Directive was invalid, as wide-ranging collection of phone and internet data interferes with the right to a private life and the protection of personal data, and there were no adequate safeguards in place.

1. Does the Commission consider that wide-ranging data collection, like that provided for in the UK draft communications bill, is illegal in the EU?
2. What safeguards would the Commission consider appropriate within data protection legislation to safeguard the fundamental right to a family life and the protection of personal data?