Question for written answer E-008675/2016 to the Commission

Rule 130

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Subject: Transport security

On 10 November 2016, the Belgian Parliament's counter-terrorism committee voted for the collection of passenger name record (PNR) data covering not only air carriers, but also trains, busses and ferries. The PNR Directive only obliges Member States to collect PNRs for passenger flights.

During the Transport, Telecommunications and Energy Council of 1 December 2016, the security of international and high-speed trains will be discussed. In this regard, the Belgian minister of Mobility has announced that extra security checks will be introduced in Antwerp, Brussels and Liège for international trains¹.

- 1. Does the Commission consider the proposed Belgian PNR system, which includes data on train, bus and ship passengers, to constitute a reasonable burden on the companies collecting the PNR data, and proportionate in terms of security?
- 2. Does the Commission consider the PNR Directive to serve as a legal base for the collection of PNR data on domestic as well as intra-EU travel by public rail, land and water transportation, and that such measures are in line with EU data protection legislation?
- 3. How does the Commission assess the effectiveness and proportionality of the announced security checks for international trains in three Belgian stations, in terms of both security and the free movement of persons across the EU?

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http://www.demorgen.be/binnenland/tegen-begin-2017-veiligheidspoortjes-in-stations-brussel-zuidantwerpen-en-luik-b3f6f1b4