

**Question for written answer E-003186/2018  
to the Commission  
Rule 130  
Josef Weidenholzer (S&D)**

Subject: Amazon Rekognition

In a report from the American Civil Liberties Union (ACLU) non-governmental organisation concerning the 'Amazon Rekognition' service in the 'Amazon Web Services' (AWS) Amazon cloud, it is revealed that 'Amazon Rekognition' is most heavily promoted to states and their secret services,<sup>1</sup> excepting companies and groups.

- 1) Is the Commission familiar with 'Amazon Rekognition', and has there been any contact between the Commission or the Council and Amazon on this issue?
- 2) Is the Commission aware of whether any European secret services or police forces are intending to use this system?
- 3) Is the Commission aware of whether other facial recognition software with a similar function is being used in EU Member States, or whether its use is being considered?

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<sup>1</sup> <https://www.aclu.org/blog/privacy-technology/surveillance-technologies/amazon-teams-government-deploy-dangerous-new>