Subject: Lessons from Germany's recent cyberdefence failure

Following the recent and devastating cyberattack in Germany, in which about a thousand people had their data hacked, the Federal Minister of the Interior, Horst Seehofer, wants to develop the German National Cyberdefence Centre into a 'central platform for coordination and cooperation'. This would include new capabilities in evaluating and assessing the state of cybersecurity in Germany. At EU level, a proposal for a regulation establishing the European Cybersecurity Industrial, Technology and Research Competence Centre and the Network of National Coordination Centres (COM(2018)0630), which was only submitted in September 2018, is also being discussed. One aim of the proposal is to help maintain and develop technological and industrial cybersecurity capacities in the EU and strengthen the EU cybersecurity industry in general. In view of the above:

1. Given the extent of the recent cyberattack, does the Commission believe that German cyberdefence is a weak link in the EU-wide cybersecurity infrastructure?
2. How will the Commission ensure that the development of the German National Cyberdefence Centre does not stand in the way of, or even contradict, the aims and provisions of proposal COM(2018)0630?
3. How will the Commission ensure that the development of the German National Cyberdefence Centre fully complements the aims and provisions of proposal COM(2018)0630?