Subject: Facial recognition in Europe

The Clearview AI company has recently become familiar throughout the world. The face recognition software developed by Clearview uses a database of 3 billion photographs which it has compiled, sometimes not legally, from various social networks. It appears the software has in the meantime been used by a wide range of executive bodies and companies. The search engine can find not only the name of a person being sought but also their address and telephone number in a very short time.

Applications such as these pose a major risk to the protection of European citizens’ data. I would therefore like to ask the following:

1. Is the Commission aware of this application being used in Europe?
2. How will the Commission protect the fundamental rights of European citizens if such programmes should appear on the European market?

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