

**Question for written answer E-001804/2021
to the Commission**

Rule 138

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Subject: Security despite encryption

In its communication of 9 December 2020, the European Commission, as the direction for future policies, points to the requirement to use encryption that can be scrutinised by judicial authorities, with a view to significantly increasing the effectiveness of the fight against organised crime.

Given the intention expressed in that document, could the Commission shed light on the following:

1. What guarantees are there that encryption primitives with such characteristics are not significantly more vulnerable than current ones and therefore susceptible to being easily 'broken' by actors with no legal mandate?
2. How will it be possible to ensure that organised crime does not continue using current encryption systems, rendering this initiative ineffective?
3. How will it be possible to resolve the apparent contradiction between the requirement to use this new type of encryption and relationships that are legally protected from any kind of scrutiny such as those between lawyers and clients or doctors and patients?