Question for written answer E-004119/2021 to the Commission Rule 138 Harald Vilimsky (ID), Georg Mayer (ID)

Subject: Asset registry

The Commission has published a tender for a feasibility study on a European Asset Registry. Officially, the scheme is intended to support the fight against tax evasion and money laundering. This raises a number of questions:

- 1. The planned asset registry would make citizens 'transparent', opening up their assets for surveillance and scrutiny. How compatible is this with the fundamental rights of EU citizens?
- 2. In the context of current discussions about society going cashless, the notion of an asset registry raises very serious concerns. In future, will Europeans only be able to accumulate assets or make payments with the consent of the EU?