

**Question for written answer E-000015/2022/rev.1
to the Commission**

Rule 138

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Subject: Allegations of illegal surveillance by the Swiss tech company Mitto

A co-founder of Mitto AG is alleged to have sold access to the company's networks to enable various surveillance contractors and spy agencies to carry out secret surveillance on individuals in return for payment¹. The Swiss Federal Data Protection and Information Commissioner has opened an investigation into these allegations². Mitto sends millions of SMS messages to European citizens on behalf of companies such as Google and Twitter and a considerable proportion of its workforce is based in the EU.

1. Is the Commission aware of these allegations and the investigation of the Swiss Federal Data Protection and Information Commissioner?
2. What responses and investigations will be undertaken at a European level to ascertain the full extent of the surveillance of European citizens as a result of Mitto's illegal surveillance services?
3. Given the widespread knowledge and abuse of the vulnerabilities of the SS7 signalling systems, what plans are there to upgrade to more secure signalling protocols in the EU?

¹ <https://www.thebureauinvestigates.com/stories/2021-12-06/swiss-tech-company-boss-accused-of-selling-mobile-network-access-for-spying>

² <https://www.admin.ch/gov/en/start/documentation/media-releases.msg-id-86311.html>