

**Question for written answer E-001287/2022
to the Commission**

Rule 138

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Subject: Data protection and subcutaneous microchip implants

A Swedish company's testing of microchips allowing users to store the QR code to their COVID certificate under their skin should raise alarm bells about the implications of this device for public freedoms.

Indeed, these microchips can store all identity, medical and banking-related data. They can be used as a means of payment, replace access badges in companies and even unlock computers without a password.

As practical as these implants may be, the fact remains that they may facilitate hacker attacks, and the long-term health effects of human microchipping are not yet known.

Worse still, rolling out such devices could enable some unscrupulous governments to keep tabs on people or to block their payment methods if, for instance, they take part in a banned protest. Insurance companies could also increase their rates depending on their customers' habits and lifestyles.

Given these potential violations of individual freedoms, has the Commission devised a data protection regime for future users of microchip implants?