

**Question for written answer E-002443/2022
to the Commission**

Rule 138

Moritz Körner (Renew)

Subject: Data protection by design and by default

Many laptops are equipped with a physical lens cover so that even if software switches on a laptop camera of its own accord, the camera will not display anything if the lens is obstructed by a physical sliding cover. Such technology is proven, simple, cheap and efficient.

In its reply to Written Question E-001309/2022, the Commission stated that 'laptop manufacturers are usually not controllers of the personal data processed using those devices and thus are not direct addressees of Article 25 of the GDPR [General Data Protection Regulation]'.

1. Both Apple and Microsoft manufacture laptops and provide the operating systems for them. In the Commission's opinion, are Apple and Microsoft, when it comes to their laptops, direct addressees of Article 25 of the GDPR?
2. If so, does the Commission consider that, taking into account the state of the art, the cost of implementation, the nature, scope, context and purposes of processing data and the risks of varying likelihood and severity to the rights and freedoms of natural persons posed by the processing of data, a physical lens cover is better suited to fulfil the requirements laid down in the GDPR than any software solution?