

**Question for written answer E-002941/2022
to the Commission**
Rule 138
Virginie Joron (ID)

Subject: Amazon hosting the Commission's official journal

Amazon is advertising its cloud services extensively on Twitter¹. The advertisement features a presentation made by Philippe Merle, a senior Commission official², at an Amazon (AWS) conference. The Commission is said to be the biggest IT market in the entire Benelux region.

Philippe Merle claims that the Commission's 'Europa' website and its official journal are hosted by this US company. He also states that the Commission has more than 1 000 IT systems for 35 000 officials. It is rather surprising to hear him say that there was 'no strategy at the beginning' and that campaigns are being organised to convince reluctant officials to migrate sensitive Commission information to the Amazon cloud.

Finally, the 'Conference on the Future of Europe' consultation procedure also appears to have been hosted by Amazon, and the personal data of participants were allegedly sent to the US, triggering a complaint against the Commission³.

1. Why did the Commission not choose a European cloud services company?
2. Did the Commission require Amazon to have a minimum amount of servers or support staff based in Europe?
3. Did the Commission agree to the use of its image for commercial advertising, or will it take action against Amazon?

¹ <https://twitter.com/awscloud/status/1544354491331485697?t=S222c0pK0V9pBaO4k08C2A&s=02>

² Chairman of the Cloud Council

³ <https://www.euractiv.com/section/data-protection/news/european-commission-sued-for-violating-eus-data-protection-rules/>