Question for written answer E-000279/2023 to the Commission Rule 138 Joanna Kopcińska (ECR)

Subject: The European cancer imaging initiative and the GDPR

The European cancer imaging initiative (ECII) launched on 23 January 2023 is one of the flagship projects under Europe's Beating Cancer Plan. The aim is to maximise the potential of data and digital technologies such as artificial intelligence and high-performance computing (HPC). The ECII also aims to foster innovation and the deployment of digital technologies in treatments and therapies for cancer patients in order to bring about accurate clinical decision-making, a consistent diagnostics process and the implementation of predictive medicine. The ECII was developed as part of the European Federation for Cancer Images (EUCAIM) project, funded by the DIGITAL programme.

Speeding up the development of innovative tools that can offer faster cancer diagnosis and personalised care requires a huge amount of comparative data and appropriate processing. With what overarching methodology does the Commission intend to maintain the initiative, which aims, on the one hand, to ensure massive operations on HPC-type data (including the possibility of 'creating' new Al-based technologies in large sets of standardised data) and, on the other hand, to preserve the existing acquis that is in line with the General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR)?

The initial version of the platform is due to be set up by the end of 2024, and the final version in 2025. In the Commission's view at the present time, which aspects of the full operation of the platform will then have to undergo an additional legal review with regard to data protection?

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