

**Question for written answer E-000500/2023/rev.1  
to the Commission**

Rule 138

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**Subject:** Request for information on EU measures to protect intelligence data

The recent case of the Chinese spy balloon shot down by the US has shown that China's use of espionage to gather data could also affect several European countries. This news comes directly from the Pentagon, whose recent report confirmed Beijing's surveillance, interception and intelligence-gathering actions in Europe, with particular reference to countries such as Italy, where there are several NATO bases. The EU Intelligence and Situation Centre (EU INTCEN), part of the EEAS, has no power to gather information itself and relies on information provided by the Member States.

In view of the above:

1. Has the Commission ever been made aware of espionage in European territory by China or other third countries?
2. How does the Commission facilitate cooperation between the Member States to protect their own intelligence and exchanges of information on threats from third countries?

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