Question for written answer E-003352/2023
to the Commission
Rule 138
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Subject: Cybersecurity threats to public administration

In response to increasing cybersecurity threats, the Commission presented a proposal for a regulation laying down measures for a high common level of cybersecurity at the institutions, bodies, offices and agencies of the Union (COM(2022)0122)[1]. However, cybersecurity is under threat not only at Union level, but also at national level. This was illustrated by the hacking of the Austrian Province of Carinthia's IT system, although at present it is actually unclear whether the stolen data was sold[2].

1. Is the Commission considering extending the proposed assistance measures to bodies of national public administrations, if necessary?

2. Given that, as is the case with most hacking attacks, investigations in Carinthia have also been abandoned, is the Commission also envisaging specific measures to improve investigations into cyberattacks?

3. What is the Commission’s view on limiting digitalisation to genuinely necessary areas and technologies, especially given that continuous advances in digitalisation (e.g. the shift to cloud-based systems) and increased levels of teleworking contribute significantly to the growth of cybersecurity threats?

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1 https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/?uri=CELEX%3A52022PC0122
2 https://www.derstandard.at/story/3000000194641/ermittlungen-nach-hackerangriff-auf-land-kaernten-abgebrochen