

Question for written answer E-003419/2023
to the Commission
Rule 138
Assita Kanko (ECR)

Subject: Security issues related to scanning equipment at the EU's external borders

Concerns have been voiced about security issues related to the use of scanning equipment and services provided by the Chinese company Nuctech at most of the EU's external borders. As a state-owned company, Nuctech falls under the State-owned Assets Supervision and Administration Commission of the State Council and reports to Chinese intelligence services. Technical experts have provided proof that Nuctech customs scanning equipment is prone to leaks. Moreover, it is likely that Nuctech's equipment and services are being used to help suppress (religious) minorities in China.

The Customs Control Equipment Instrument (CCEI) fund currently still allows the procurement by EU Member States of Nuctech equipment and services. However, the legal requirements and conditions for the use of CCEI funds clearly specify that a company such as Nuctech should not be allowed to take part in procurement procedures under CCEI conditions.

Will the Commission fully implement and enforce the applicable rules and stop such procurement?
Will the Commission adapt the CCEI format so that these funds can only be used to procure totally safe scanning equipment produced inside the EU, ensuring that all backdoors end within EU territory and can be verified within EU jurisdictions?

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