

ORAL QUESTION H-0138/07  
for Question Time at the part-session in March 2007  
pursuant to Rule 109 of the Rules of Procedure  
by Adamos Adamou  
to the Council

Subject:           Proposal to incorporate the Prüm Convention into European law

The Prüm Convention provides for the collection, storage, use and exchange of citizens' personal data (including the fingerprints and DNA of suspects) and allows local and foreign special services to be present and operate on the territory of the Member States. It also provides for joint operations between police and special forces of two or more Member States in the case of internationally important events.

Does the Council acknowledge that the use of terms such as 'mass gatherings' or 'similar major events' implies an unprecedented process of surveillance and control? Is the Council not concerned that the use of general terms such as 'urgent situations', 'terrorist offences' and 'maintaining public order' will justify the police and other law enforcement authorities delving into citizens' personal data and the restriction of freedom of expression without accountability to any independent, legal supervisory body? Is there no concern at the legalisation of the violation of the rights and freedoms of all citizens, which is enshrined in this Convention in the name of combating terrorism and organised crime, in which only a minority are involved?

Tabled: 26.02.2007  
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