LIBE Committee Inquiry on Electronic Mass Surveillance of EU Citizens

Draft programme

Monday, 11 November 2013, 15:00 - 18:30
Brussels
Meeting room: JAN 4Q1
1. Session I will be dedicated to the exchange of views with Congressman Jim Sensenbrenner, Member of the Committee on the Judiciary and Chairman of the Subcommittee on Crime, Terrorism, Homeland Security, and Investigations.

Some LIBE members had the opportunity to meet the Congressman already in Washington D.C in the framework of the LIBE Delegation which took place on 28-30 October 2013.

On 29 October Congressman Sensenbrenner and Senator Patrick Leahy, Chairman of the Senate Judiciary Committee, introduced the USA Freedom Act which is meant to end the National Security Agency’s bulk collection of Americans’ communications records by amending Section 215 of the Patriot Act, making numerous amendments to the Foreign Intelligence Surveillance Act and creating a privacy advocate to the Foreign Intelligence Surveillance Court, who could argue civil liberties concerns and appeal court decisions.

2. Follow-up on the previous (7th November) hearing, Session II will continue exploring the different national practices of parliamentary or other independent oversight of national intelligence activities, with representatives of different Member States’ national Parliaments.

3. Session III will focus on the involvement of the commercial companies in the US mass surveillance activities. Representatives of Microsoft and Google will make a statement about the allegations revealed by the media.
15:00 Introductory remarks by Sophie IN’T VELD, Vice-Chair of the LIBE Committee

SESSION I
US surveillance programmes and their impact on EU citizens’ privacy

15:05 – 15:20 Statement by
- Mr Jim SENSENBRENNER, US House of Representatives, (Member of the Committee on the Judiciary and Chairman of the Subcommittee on Crime, Terrorism, Homeland Security, and Investigations)

15:20 - 16:00 Questions & Answers

SESSION II
The role of Parliamentary oversight of intelligence services at national level in an era of mass surveillance (Part II)

16:00 – 16:10 The situation in Sweden:
Statements by
- Mr Peter ERIKSSON, Chair of the Committee on the Constitution, Swedish Parliament (Riksdag)

16:10 - 16:30 Questions & Answers

16:30– 16:40 The situation in the Netherlands:
Statements by
- Mr A.H. VAN DELDEN, Chair of the Dutch independent Review Committee on the Intelligence and Security Services (CTIVD)

16:40 - 17:00 Questions & Answers

SESSION III
US NSA programmes for electronic mass surveillance and the role of IT Companies

17:00 - 17:30 Statements by
- Ms Dorothee BELZ, Vice-President, Legal and Corporate Affairs Microsoft EMEA (Europe, Middle East and Africa)
- Mr Nicklas LUNDBLAD, Director, Public Policy and Government Relations, Google
- Mr Richard ALLAN, Director EMEA Public Policy, Facebook

17:30 - 18:25 Questions & Answers

18:25 - 18:30 Concluding remarks and follow-up