

**Question for written answer E-015749/2015
to the Commission**
Rule 130
Christel Schaldemose (S&D)

Subject: Car owners' right to own car data

'Connected cars' will be much more widespread in the future. Internet-connected cars can provide drivers with useful information on, inter alia, parking spaces, service areas and traffic jams. However, such cars could also send information to car makers, e.g. engine malfunction messages. That information is currently stored within cars, and repair shops can access it in order to produce diagnostic reports. In future, information will not be stored in cars; rather, it will be sent to car makers via the Internet. Some will think that clever; but perhaps it is a little too clever. That information ought to belong to car owners only. Without clear data ownership rules, there is a risk that car owners will be forced to choose an approved repair shop in order to have services and repairs carried out, since, otherwise, they could not have access to the relevant information because it would not be stored in the car itself.

Is the relevant EU legislation sufficiently up to date to be able to safeguard car owners' privacy as regards information generated and transmitted by cars?

What will the Commission do to ensure that information on how cars are driven is not improperly used by insurance companies, etc.?

How will the Commission ensure that owners always have a free choice of repair shops and that equal treatment is ensured for independent repair shops so that they can access car-generated information?