Question for written answer E-015271/2015 to the Commission Rule 130 Adam Szejnfeld (PPE)

Subject: Protecting the privacy of car drivers

Cars are becoming ever smarter, thanks, among other things, to systems which record data about the car and its owner, navigation systems, radars, cameras, etc. Electronic devices offer the possibility not only to record information about a vehicle, its condition, location and driver, but also to wirelessly transmit that information immediately to an external recipient.

This includes some of the most sensitive information. Knowing where a car is at any given time makes it possible to determine, for example, where the driver lives and works, how they spend their pastime, the places they visit most often, including for shopping, services, entertainment and so on. This is valuable information which many organisations, including businesses, would like to access, even without the knowledge and consent of the user or owner of the vehicle.

In view of the very rapid development of in-car computing and the emergence of new types of software that can connect to the car from an external device, appropriate safeguards need to be brought in so that all vehicle owners can decide whether, and if so which, data can be recorded, stored and processed.

What action does the Commission intend to take to protect personal data and data concerning cars and the lifestyle of car owners and users?

1080374.EN PE 572.578