

**Question for written answer E-015102/2015  
to the Commission**  
Rule 130  
**Josu Juaristi Abaunz (GUE/NGL)**

Subject: Registration of the personal data of travellers by the Spanish Interior Ministry

According to a number of media reports in Spain<sup>1</sup>, the Spanish Ministry of the Interior operates a register in which it stores – beyond the 24-hour limit prescribed by law as a general rule – all the personal data of travellers handed over to it by airlines. This hitherto unknown database was discovered by officials of the Spanish Data Protection Agency following a complaint from a citizen.

In the register, called 'Control', data from the Advance Passenger Information (API) system is stored, enabling, for example, checks to be made at any time on when a Spanish politician travelled to a country outside the EU.

Article 6 of Council Directive 2004/82/EC stipulates that Member States 'shall delete the data, within 24 hours after transmission', unless it is known at the time that the data will be 'needed later for the purposes of exercising the statutory functions (...)'.

1. Is the Commission aware of these illegal acts?

2. Will it start an investigation?

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<sup>1</sup> [http://www.eldiario.es/politica/Policia-almacena-personales-pasajeros-Ley\\_0\\_446905754.html](http://www.eldiario.es/politica/Policia-almacena-personales-pasajeros-Ley_0_446905754.html)