

**Question for written answer E-008666/2013
to the Commission**

Rule 117

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Subject: Spying programmes conducted by foreign intelligence services and the security of EU institutions

On the basis of information placed in the public domain by the US citizen Edward Snowden, since June 2013 details have been emerging of spying programmes conducted by foreign intelligence services, in particular those in the US (PRISM) and the United Kingdom (TEMPORA). It is alleged that some of these activities have been carried out on EU territory and directed against EU institutions and bodies. These disclosures have prompted calls that the forthcoming negotiations on the Transatlantic Trade and Investment Agreement (TTIA) between the EU and the USA should address the issue of data protection.

1. What measures has the Commission taken, and what measures will it take, in order to guarantee the confidentiality of the negotiations, and of the preparations for them which are being made by the EU and its institutions and bodies, and in particular in order to provide protection against electronic surveillance?
2. What information and communication technologies can EU institutions and bodies use in order to protect themselves against and detect spying activities by third parties?
3. How many attempts to hack into the information and communication technologies employed by EU institutions and bodies have been detected since 1 January 2009? Who were these hacking attempts directed against, and what countermeasures and protective measures did the institutions and bodies concerned take in response?
4. Does the Commission not agree that the negotiations on the TTIA should be preceded by an agreement between all the parties involved that no electronic surveillance will be carried out of the negotiations and of the persons and bodies involved?