

**Question for oral answer O-000211/2011
to the Commission**

Rule 115

Jacqueline Foster, Peter van Dalen, Roberts Zile
on behalf of the ECR Group

Subject: Security scanners

The Commission and Parliament have agreed on the inclusion of body scanners for screening passengers at EU airports as an additional security measure in the fight against terrorism. Technology is already available which addresses the health, privacy and data protection concerns of screened passengers; however, the implementing measures do not specify that body images must be in the form of a stick-figure, as agreed by Parliament in Paragraph 27 of its report P7_TA(2011)0329 adopted in July 2011. This proposal may therefore have a serious impact on the right of EU citizens to privacy and data protection.

1. How is the Commission going to make sure the provisions on body images ensure that fundamental rights to privacy and data protection are fully respected? How will passengers' identity be protected? How will the security of personal data recorded by the body scanners be guaranteed?
2. Does the Commission also share the view that security scanners are a useful part of more effective security procedures across the EU, but that cross-border intelligence, counter-terrorism measures and the use of central reservation systems and passenger profiling to identify potential terrorists need to be strengthened?
3. What is the Commission's view on Parliament's position, as expressed in Paragraph 56 of its aforementioned July 2011 report, that binding measures for the aviation security sector which have such a great impact on people's fundamental rights must be adopted via the ordinary legislative procedure? This would allow Parliament to remain actively involved in decisions of this nature, which require an appropriate level of transparency.

Tabled: 21.9.2011

Forwarded: 23.9.2011

Deadline for reply: 30.9.2011