

Question for written answer E-002731/2024

to the Commission

Rule 144

Raquel García Hermida-Van Der Walle (Renew)

Subject: Spanish law on registration of tourist details

As from 2 December, a new Spanish law requires firms in the tourism industry, such as travel agencies, hotels and car rental companies, to register travellers' details and submit them to the Spanish authorities. The details include the information given on ID documents, telephone numbers, e-mail addresses, the relationship between travellers if a minor is travelling in the group, website addresses for the accommodation concerned and payment details. The Spanish Government states that it intends to use the terrorism act to combat 'transnational' organised crime. The tourism industry is warning of additional burdens and higher travel costs as a result of the new rules. The law has been in effect since January 2023, but is being enforced as of 2 December.¹

1. Does the Commission take the view that the mass registration of travellers' details in the tourism industry is in keeping with the principle of proportionality in order to achieve the intended purpose of combating terrorism and crime?
2. Does the Commission agree that, in combating terrorism and transnational organised crime, Member States would do better to focus on timely and proper implementation² and enforcement of European security laws, and on adequately funding European agencies such as Europol and Eurojust, rather than putting sham security measures in place?
3. Has the Commission contacted the Spanish authorities in connection with this law, and does the Commission consider it to be in line with European law, including European data protection laws?

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¹ <https://elpais.com/economia/2024-12-02/asi-es-el-nuevo-registro-de-viajeros-que-entra-en-vigor-este-lunes.html>

² The Commission has been conducting infringement proceedings against Spain since September 2021 for failure to implement Directive (EU) 2019/1153 laying down rules facilitating the use of financial and other information for the prevention, detection, investigation or prosecution of certain criminal offences.