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Answer given by Mr Brunner
on behalf of the European Commission
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Under Article 4(2) of the Treaty on EU, national security is the exclusive responsibility of Member States. It is for Spain to assess and manage risks linked to surveillance technologies, including in strategic sites.

At the same time, EU law applies in areas such as data protection, cybersecurity and public procurement. Regulation (EU) 2016/679¹ ensures lawful and proportionate processing of personal data, also in surveillance contexts. In addition, the forthcoming revision of the Cybersecurity Act² will address resilience of information and communication technology (ICT) supply chains and infrastructure more broadly.

EU security cooperation relies on mutual trust and shared responsibility. While there is no indication that Spain has breached its obligations, Member States must ensure decisions do not undermine EU security or trust. The ProtectEU Internal Security Strategy³ encourages assessment of technological dependencies and risks, including system origin, control, vulnerabilities, and impacts on information sharing.

Directive 2014/24/EU⁴ allows exclusion of operators on national security grounds, with national authorities responsible for risk assessments. Directive (EU) 2022/2555⁵, notably Article 22, provides for EU-level coordinated security risk assessments of critical ICT supply chains. Under this framework, Member States, supported by the Commission and the EU Agency for Cybersecurity, are developing an ICT supply chain security toolbox to help identify, assess, and mitigate related risks.

¹ Regulation (EU) 2016/679 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 27 April 2016 on the protection of natural persons with regard to the processing of personal data and on the free movement of such data, and repealing Directive 95/46/EC (General Data Protection Regulation).

² Regulation (EU) 2019/881 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 17 April 2019 on ENISA (the European Union Agency for Cybersecurity) and on information and communications technology cybersecurity certification and repealing Regulation (EU) No 526/2013 (Cybersecurity Act).

³ Communication from the Commission to the European Parliament, the Council, the European Economic and Social Committee and the Committee of the Regions on ProtectEU: a European Internal Security Strategy, COM(2025) 148 final.

⁴ Directive 2014/24/EU of the European Parliament and of the Council of 26 February 2014 on public procurement and repealing Directive 2004/18/EC.

⁵ Directive (EU) 2022/2555 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 14 December 2022 on measures for a high common level of cybersecurity across the Union, amending Regulation (EU) No 910/2014 and Directive (EU) 2018/1972, and repealing Directive (EU) 2016/1148 (NIS 2 Directive).