

EN

E-000299/2026

Answer given by Executive Vice-President Virkkunen
on behalf of the European Commission
(31.3.2026)

The Commission recalled the applicability of the General Data Protection Regulation¹ in its reply to written question E-000182/2025, including requirements to ensure security of processing and conditions for the transfer of personal data to third countries. In addition, the gaining of access to personal and non-personal data in the terminal equipment of a user are governed by Article 5(3) of the ePrivacy Directive².

The Network and Information Systems Cooperation Group, the Commission and the European Network and Information Security Agency, conducted a cybersecurity risk assessment on connected and automated vehicles which demonstrated espionage and physical security risks³. The report contains mitigation recommendations.

In addition, the revised Cybersecurity Act⁴ proposed by the Commission sets out a framework to deal with strategic risks and de-risk EU critical infrastructure from high-risk suppliers. The Commission would be able to propose measures to address identified risks in key information and communication technology (ICT) assets, ranging from requiring supplier information in the ICT supply chain and data processing within the EU, to prohibition for EU critical infrastructure to use, install or integrate such ICT components from high-risk suppliers.

Connected vehicles are not foreseen as an area for future European cybersecurity certification. For technical risks, vehicle type-approval rules⁵ require vehicle manufacturers to identify and assess risks and apply appropriate measures to manage those risks and that vehicle manufacturers obtain a cybersecurity management system certificate to ascertain its implementation.

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), OJ L 119, 4.5.2016, pp. 1-88.

² Directive 2002/58/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council of 12 July 2002 concerning the processing of personal data and the protection of privacy in the electronic communications sector (Directive on privacy and electronic communications), OJ L 201, 31.7.2002, pp. 37–47.

³ <https://digital-strategy.ec.europa.eu/en/library/toolbox-improve-ict-supply-chain-security>.

⁴ COM(2026) 11 final.

⁵ Regulation (EU) 2018/858, Article 5(1) and Part 1 of Annex II; Regulation (EU) 2019/2144, Article 4(5)(d) and Annex II; UN Regulation No 155.