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Answer given by Mr McGrath
on behalf of the European Commission
(10.9.2026)

The Commissioner for Democracy, Justice, the Rule of Law and Consumer Protection updated the Honourable Members of the European Parliament in the Committee on Civil Liberties, Justice and Home Affairs on 3 December 2025 about the review process. The information provided at the time continues to be valid.

In that meeting, the Commissioner for Democracy, Justice, the Rule of Law and Consumer Protection referred to the ongoing review process for the EU-US umbrella agreement. The timing of the review has been affected by several factors, including shifting priorities during the COVID-19 pandemic and institutional changes on the US side following the change of Administration. The exercise is also complex in nature, requiring gathering information on the relevant implementing policies and procedures in the US, the EU and its 27 Member States.

The Commission looks forward to continuing to work with the US administration to conduct the joint review.

As regards the proposed framework agreement for the Enhanced Border Security Partnership¹, it includes strong safeguards on data protection, in line with EU Law, including with the General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR)².

¹ Proposal for a Council Decision on the signing and provisional application of a Framework Agreement between the European Union and the United States of America on the reciprocal exchange of information for identity verification, and screening and vetting, relating to border procedures and applications for travel authorisations and visas, COM/2026/484 final, of 10 September 2026.

² 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) (Text with EEA relevance) *OJ L 119, 4.5.2016, pp. 1–88*.