

AT A GLANCE

Policy Departments' Monthly Highlights



FOCUS

Pegasus and equivalent surveillance spyware



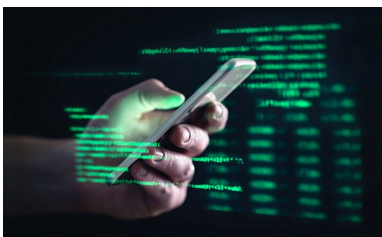
Dear Reader,

The PEGA Committee of inquiry was set up after revelations about the alleged abuse of Pegasus and equivalent spyware, to examine the extent of the problem and determine if EU law and the Charter of Fundamental Rights were infringed. PEGA has gathered information on the use and abuse of intrusive surveillance by Member States or third countries, heard stakeholders and organised fact-finding missions. The rapporteur recently presented her draft report, which will now be discussed in the Committee and a resolution will be tabled. Also, a series of studies will be presented, notably a study on the national legal frameworks governing the use of Pegasus and equivalent spyware - including oversight and redress mechanisms.

*Jeroen Lenaers, MEP,
Chair of the Committee of Inquiry to investigate
the use of Pegasus and equivalent surveillance spyware*

The use of Pegasus and equivalent surveillance spyware

Policy Department for Citizens' Rights and Constitutional Affairs



Oversight mechanisms of the use of special investigative techniques are often weak or ineffective.

This study describes the legal framework (including oversight and redress) governing the use of Pegasus and equivalent spyware in some Member States. It extends the scope of an earlier study (2017) to focus on Pegasus and equivalent, and outlines the use of such tools by a wider range of actors, including intelligence agencies.

Scan the QR codes
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FORTHCOMING EVENTS

CONT/BUDG The role of the EU budget in international climate finance

Workshop
30 January 2023



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You can check all past and future events organized by committees and policy departments on the committee website under the **Events tab**.



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RECENT PUBLICATIONS

Single Audit Approach – Weaknesses of the MS Managing and Audit Authorities

Policy Department for Budgetary Affairs



'Single Audit' is an audit system in which each audit layer builds on work done by the preceding one. This study for the CONT Committee examines the problems that Member States' authorities and bodies experience in the implementation, control and audit of EU expenditure. To address weaknesses that are identified, the study makes a number of recommendations to the Commission and national authorities.



The Strategic Compass and EU space-based defence

Policy Department for External Relations



The EU relies on space for its economic and strategic autonomy. The Strategic Compass has underlined its importance, calling for a dedicated EU Strategy for Space and Defence. This in-depth analysis, requested by the SEDE subcommittee, explores a major challenge facing the EU: how to develop a credible EU space and defence strategy, while also investing in the most appropriate space-defence capabilities. The author provides concrete recommendations for policy and action.



Taxation of the informal economy in the EU

Policy Department for Economic, Scientific and Quality of Life Policies



The shadow economy can have political, social, and economic ramifications, including lower tax revenue, increased public spending, and misallocation and misuse of resources. The study requested by FISC subcommittee provides estimates of the size and development of the shadow economy in the EU up to 2022 and analyses the drivers behind it. The study reviews the policy measures implemented to reduce the shadow economy in six EU countries (Germany, Austria, Italy, Denmark, Romania and Greece).



Revised Audiovisual Media Services directive (AVMSD)

Policy Department for Structural and Cohesion Policies



The reform of the AVMSD in 2018 has brought significant innovations affecting some of the basic principles of the AVMSD such as the scope or the country-of-origin principle. The September 2020 transposition deadline of the revised AVMSD was missed by most Member States so the picture of application in practice that we show in our research is not yet complete. The implementation partially depended on the publication of Guidelines by the EC which took place in July 2020.



FORTHCOMING PUBLICATIONS

- ITRE** Strengthening security of supply of products with critical raw materials for the green transition and decarbonisation - Dec 2022
- AFCO** Participation of young people in European democratic processes - Jan 2023
- AFET** Prospects of reinvigorating the Middle East Peace Process: a possible joint EU-US undertaking? - Jan 2023
- REGI** Cohesion Policy in EU Coal Regions - Feb 2023
- CONT** Study on "Transparency and accountability of EU funding for NGOs active in EU policy areas within EU territory" - Jun 2023

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