



## Parliamentary questions

10 February 2016

E-001213-16

**Question for written answer  
to the Commission**

**Rule 130**

**Sophia in 't Veld (ALDE) , Jan Philipp Albrecht (Verts/ALE)**

### ► **Subject: World Check database listing individuals as linked to terrorism**

The news brought by VICE<sup>(1)</sup> about the World Check database owned by Thomson Reuters, which lists and labels individuals and organisations as being related to terrorism, and which is used by over 300 government and intelligence agencies, banks, and law firms, raises cause for great concern. Allegedly, the World Check database often links individuals and organisations to terrorism only on the basis of public resources, without any proper investigation, transparency or provision of effective ways of redress.

1. How is the Commission going to make sure that innocent individuals and organisations are no longer profiled as having links to terrorism by the World Check database and similar initiatives?
2. Does the Commission, or any EU institution, agency or body, in particular Europol and notably its cybercrime units, Eurojust or IntCen, make use of the World Check database? If so, how would that be in line with the EU Charter of Fundamental rights and EU data protection legislation?
3. Does the Commission intend to regulate how the private sector conducts risk assessments of individuals and organisations in order to comply, or facilitate compliance, with regulations concerning the fight against money laundering and terrorist financing? If so, how? If not, why not?

<sup>(1)</sup> <https://news.vice.com/article/vice-news-reveals-the-terrorism-blacklist-secretly-wielding-power-over-the-lives-of-millions>