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No Data Retention

We Young European Socialists declare that we refuse new initiatives for data retention in Europe. In times of fear of terrorism many countries and politicians of different parties begin to appeal for new and stricter rules for data retention. Not only conservatives, but also some of our own mother parties push the claim for data retention in Europe.

It's not the first time that attention towards this matter gets stronger. But the attacks on the French magazine Charlie Hebdo made clear to many people that Europe is not spared by attacks. Politicians use this fear to reengage a new initiative for different restrictions of civil rights. We know that data retention is no solution. We've seen that it doesn't work. It's a fact that France uses data retention since 2006 and it clearly didn't prevent the attacks in Paris this year. Data retention is no use for prevention or clarification of terrorism.

We also won't forget that in 2014 the European Court of Justice declared the data retention directive illegal. The retention of data creates the feeling of permanent supervision and control. It's an intervention of massive severity in private matters that goes far beyond the necessary dimension of its purpose. It's actual purpose is to control us citizens. We will not accept that. No data retention through telecommunication companies, internet providers or any secret government organizations should be accepted based on fear and justified by counter-terrorism policies.

We call on our mother parties to stand against new initiatives of data retentions in the European Union and in every single country in Europe.