Subject:	RE: [EXTERNAL] request for comment
Date:	Wed, 9 Jun 2021 13:42:48 +0000
From:	Press <Press@frontex.europa.eu>
To:	REDACTED BY PI
CC:	Press <Press@frontex.europa.eu>

Dear REDACTED BY PI,

Thank you for contacting us.

Disclosing information regarding the technical equipment deployed in the operational area by Frontex and Member States would be tantamount to disclosing the exact type and capabilities of the equipment. Releasing such information could benefit criminal networks, enabling them to change their modus operandi and, consequently, result in hampering the course of ongoing and future operations to counter and prevent cross-border crime and unauthorized border crossings. For this reason, Frontex does not provide such information.

Nevertheless, we believe that it is important to note that Frontex is not intercepting any communication. These activities are carried out in form of pilot projects and the operational added value is still under assessment. No data has been analysed operationally (only qualitatively) nor shared with Member States or Third Countries.

Kind regards,
Frontex press office

-----Original Message-----
From: REDACTED BY PI
Sent: 18 May 2021 16:24
To: Press <Press@frontex.europa.eu>
Subject: [EXTERNAL] request for comment

[EXTERNAL EMAIL] CAUTION: Email originated from outside of Frontex. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize and trust the sender.

To whom it may concern

I am writing to request a comment for an upcoming article regarding the surveillance of satellite phones and other emitters to be published on www.privacyinternational.org.

Privacy International campaigns against companies and governments who exploit our data and technologies. We expose harm and abuses, mobilise allies globally, campaign with the public for solutions, and pressure companies and governments to change.

I am writing a piece outlining the use of satellite-based and other surveillance tools,

including by Frontex, and some of the concerns associated with the use of such services. I note that Frontex has procured such services from HawkEye360 https://ted.europa.eu/udl?uri=TED:NOTICE:599045-2019:TEXT:EN:HTML&. I also note that Frontex was seeking 'Satellite Radio Frequency Emitter Detection for Situational Awareness' services last year https://ted.europa.eu /udl?uri=TED:NOTICE:470605-2020:TEXT:EN:HTML.

Further, i note that UK-based Horizon Technologies states that its FlyingFish surveillance product is used on Frontex missions.https://horizontechnologies.eu /new-1-million-nato-contract/ FlyingFish can be used to intercept the content aof calls and the coordinates of satellite phones. https://www.horizontechnologies.eu /wp-content/uploads/2017/02/FlyingFish-Airborne-Satellite-Phone-Monitoring-System-3rd-Generation-s.pdf

For the article, can you confirm:

- Whether last year's procurement of 'Satellite Radio Frequency Emitter Detection for Situational Awareness' was finalised, and if so, who the service provider is?

- Whether FlyingFish devices are used to intercept the content of anyone's satellite communications or to locate their GPS location? If so, what is the legal basis for such collection, is any prior judicial authorisation needed, who is this data used by and shared with, and for how long it is retained?

- Which Frontex departments or bodies use surveillance tools provided by HawkEye360 or Horizon Technologies?

- Which authorities have access to data collected by HawkEye360 or Horizon Technologies tools?

- Which authorities have access to intelligence derived from data collected by HawkEye360's or Horizon Technologies's tools?

- Has any Frontex body shared data collected by HawkEye360 or Horizon Technologies with any EU or non-EU authority, such as a Coastguard or Border Police?

- Has any Frontex body shared intelligence derived from data collected by HawkEye360's or Horizon Technologies's tools with any EU or non-EU authority, such as a Coastguard or Border Police?

- Are authorities which receive data or intelligence from Frontex allowed to share that data or intelligence with other EU or non-EU authorities, such as a Coastguard or Border Police?

- To the best of Frontex's knowledge, has any authority which has received data collected by HawkEye360's or Horizon Technologies's tools shared that data with any other EU or non-EU authority, such as a Coastguard or Border Police?

- To the best of Frontex's knowledge, has any authority which has received intelligence based on data collected by HawkEye360's or Horizon Technologies's tools

shared that data with any other EU or non-EU authority, such as a Coastguard or Border Police?

In addition to answering these questions, we would also welcome a general comment on the use of such tools.

My deadline is 12am CET Monday 24 May.

Yours sincerely
REDACTED BY PI

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