Open Letter to Vice-President of the European Commission Michel Barnier

17 July 2014

Dear Vice-President,

Access is an international organisation that defends and extends the digital rights of users at risk around the world.

We would like to draw your attention to procedural issues regarding the adoption of a UK legislative proposal called the Data Retention and Investigatory Powers Act (“DRIP”).

The DRIP will be put to vote in the UK Parliament in the next few days, although it seems the UK has failed to fulfil its obligation under EU law. Indeed, the UK did not notify the European Commission of the impending legislation setting down rules on Information Society services as required by the Technical Standards Directive 98/34/EC.

As it is the responsibility of the European Commission to ensure the correct application of EU legislation as set in the Article 258 of Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union (TFEU), we urge you to take all the necessary steps to bring the present infringement to an end.

Sincerely,

Raegan MacDonald
European Policy Manager