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23 January 2019

## The human being-machine connection: new rights or new threats to fundamental freedoms?

### Motion for a resolution

tabled by Mr Olivier BECHT and other members of the Assembly

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This motion has not been discussed in the Assembly and commits only those who have signed it

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Since the invention of new digital technologies, the computer has always been presented as a progress for mankind in many fields such as education, science, health, economy, culture. This is the reason why the connection of digital elements in the human body has taken place without much debate (for instance, connected pacemakers). Similarly, the connection of the human brain to a computer, via brain helmets, allows more and more disabled people to communicate or even to direct objects.

However, the creation of interfaces between the brain and the machine could also be used in the other way, allowing the machine, and those who control it, to get into the brain in order to read, delete or add information. This is already the case for some programmes which open the door to applications that could bring to an end the last refuge of freedom: the mind.

The Parliamentary Assembly should therefore evaluate how this human-machine connection brings along not only progress but also poses threats to our fundamental freedoms. This report would enable the Assembly to make recommendations to member States on the possibility of strengthening the level of protection of freedoms in the light of these new technologies.

*Signed (see overleaf)*



*Signed*<sup>1</sup>:

BECHT Olivier, France, ALDE  
BOUYX Bertrand, France, NR  
BULAI Iulian, Romania, ALDE  
COMTE Raphaël, Switzerland, ALDE  
DAEMS Hendrik, Belgium, ALDE  
FOURNIER Bernard, France, EPP/CD  
GATTOLIN André, France, NR  
GOUTTEFARDE Fabien, France, NR  
JORDANA Carles, Andorra, ALDE  
KUHLE Konstantin, Germany, ALDE  
LE NAY Jacques, France, ALDE  
MAIRE Jacques, France, NR  
MARUKYAN Edmon, Armenia, ALDE  
MEHL Emilie Enger, Norway, ALDE  
PALLARÉS Judith, Andorra, ALDE  
RIBERAYGUA Patrícia, Andorra, ALDE  
SIDALI Zeki Hakan, Turkey, ALDE  
SOTNYK Olena, Ukraine, ALDE  
VAN QUICKENBORNE Vincent, Belgium, ALDE  
VEN Mart, van de, Netherlands, ALDE

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1. ALDE: Alliance of Liberals and Democrats for Europe  
EPP/CD: Group of the European People's Party  
NR: Representatives not belonging to a Political Group