

Speech
Dr. Silke Lüder ,
Spokeswoman for Stop the E-card "
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Dear friends and friends ,

It's great to have so many of us here again today. Because we want to make clear that we are free citizens in a democratic country. We will not allow ourselves to be monitored day and night, like the objects of some streamlined internet operation.

And certainly not be these intelligence services and corporate spies.

Who buys what ? What is our consumer behavior like? And how do we respond to advertising?

We have long since become completely transparent people in this surveillance society, and most of us have gotten used to it. The fact that governments and intelligence agencies spy on each other is also something that has always been there. But with the Internet, the scope has become completely different. There is also a new level of centralized monitoring, with such things as the planned electronic health card, as an access key to a nationwide disease data mountain. For 10 years, government, the health insurance industry and the IT industries have been chasing this expensive will-o'-the-whisp.

For 10 years, they have been trying to create the world's largest IT structure, using a little card to store all our medical data centrally, and to make it accessible for 2 million workers in the health care system.

But doctors don't want to go along with this prestige project; they want to protect the privacy of their patients. And recently, we have been threatened with fines in the millions, if we continue to resist. And millions of policyholders to date have still not submitted a photo to their health insurance companies, because they refuse to let themselves be displayed on a little spy card! All over Germany, policyholders are bringing lawsuits against the project. Yes, we know that we, the movement "Stop the e -card " have for 6 years been fighting like David against Goliath. But we are carrying on regardless! Because Prism and Tempora have now fully confirmed our criticisms of the past 10 years.

Since 2002, so many beautiful things have been promised: The card supposedly protects us against abuse of medical services. And if you fall down on the street, you just push a button, and the rescue squad will be there. And it supposedly will bring wonderful medicine for all of us, because somewhere in a supercomputer, all your illness data will be found.

But after a 10 - year planning period, there's nothing to be seen for it. Nothing more than a little card with your picture on it has been achieved as yet - and you can use a photo of Brad Pitt or your dachshund, because nobody is checking your identity.

And eventually, everyone will claim not to have been responsible for it.

And now, we are facing national elections. Before the last election in 2009, the Liberal Party

(FDP) spoke out against the e-card project. Only after the election, things were different: The conservative-liberal coalition forced four pro-health card bills through the often sparsely populated Bundestag. There, it seems that across almost all party lines, there is complete immunity to facts, figures, and poor test results, as far as this project is concerned.

Apparently, there are also other factors that are completely outside of the scope of rational perception of the human brain!

I ask the members of parliament who are here today: Have you ever thought about what happens when your own data is stored centrally and spied on by foreign intelligence services - or our own ones?

What happens if the tumor marker of the minister, the depression of an MEP in the European Parliament, or the alcohol addiction of the committee chairman become known to a spy, and certain decisions are taken under the threat of blackmail?

Where, I ask you, will our democracy be then? What will happen to independent decision-making in politics and business, when centrally stored data on disease can be used to drive a politician or business leader into a corner, and thus become an instrument of power?

Each collection of data online involves the data of millions of people. And that is not just the data of individual citizens, whose health records are now scattered and largely isolated in doctors' offices clinics, and generally well-protected because of their decentralized location. Of course medicine needs modern information technology. For sure! But for that we need a new philosophy !

And what we need is not some foolish and dangerous top-down project, but rather safe lines and point-to-point connections - or medical information in the hands of the citizen concerned. Informational self-determination and centralized medical data storage are mutually exclusive concepts. No one can protect this mountain of data that now exists!

Therefore, we demand one thing of all candidates for the parliamentary elections on September 22: a very clear commitment to privacy in an area that is of central importance for all - in medicine.

It's almost an obvious issue: Any candidate can use it to demonstrate that he or she is a 1st class data protection politician!
The issue is really sexy!

And that means that after 10 years of useless planning and the waste of billions: The e-card disease drone belongs in the shredder. For that, we need your support, so my call goes to all the politicians here today: Stop the the e-card project in the Bundestag, at long last.
Thank you!

Action "Stop the E -card "

The campaign "Stop the e -card " is supported by the Free Physicians Association eV, IPPNW , and the Stored Data Working Group, the Chaos Computer Club , NAV Virchow, the German AIDS Association