

The EU is proposing to add fingerprints to ID cards

A proposal from the European Commission has called for the mandatory inclusion of biometrics (two fingerprints and a facial image) in all EU Member States' identity cards.

Although the EU is not *per se* proposing ID cards in the UK, they could still be theoretically be forced through as a transition obligation and furthermore, as "third country nationals", UK nationals visiting France, Spain, Rep. Ireland etc. might in time face being fingerprinted and thus become part of a Big Brother centralised EU database.

Statewatch, an organisation set up to monitor civil liberties in Europe, does not mince its words . This proposal by the EU will go down like a lead balloon with the more civil liberties- minded people who might have voted Remain, —particularly some idealistic young people—

ID cards are not compulsory across the EU, although ominously only Denmark and the UK do not have them. Readers might recall from last month's Resistance how the EU might be tempted by compulsory ID cards. The claim that ID cards including this biometric information will make freedom of movement easier has to be treated with scepticism.

Over the years Statewatch has provided evidence for the EU's wish to control ever more of our lives and with it, to intrude increasingly into our privacy The British people's decision to leave the EU nearly two years ago may have come at just the right time