

EU, U.S. reach passenger data accord

by UPI

BRUSSELS - A tentative deal between the United States and the European Union would cut the amount of information shared about air travelers, it was reported Thursday.

EU diplomats told the International Herald Tribune the trans-Atlantic passenger data could be kept longer, 15 years instead of the current three years, under the tentative agreement reached in a conference call between EU Justice and Home Affairs Commissioner Franco Frattini, U.S. Secretary for Homeland Security Michael Chertoff and German Interior Minister Wolfgang Schauble.

The diplomats didn't tell the newspaper which pieces of personal information wouldn't be shared under the new agreement.

The current air passenger data agreement expires July 31 and has raised privacy concerns in Europe.

The foreign ministers of the 27 EU member nations are to consider the agreement Friday.

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