



**SG.2**  
**Head of Division**

Brussels, 1 April 2022  
eeas.sg.2(2022) 2226305

To  
Mr Maximilian Henning,  
by electronic mail

*Subject: Your request for access to documents of 22 February 2022*  
*Our ref: 2022/031*

Dear Mr Henning,

I would like to thank you for your request for access to documents, which the EEAS has examined in the framework of Regulation (EC) No 1049/2001.<sup>1</sup>

Following your request, we have searched for *“the contract and all additional documents, especially reviews, reports, comments etc., concerning the provision of security to the EU delegation in Palestine by Page Protective Services Limited which led to a payment of 2.402.707,20€ in 2019”* in the EEAS filing systems and document management databases.

The EEAS has identified the following documents matching your request, as referenced hereafter in chronological order:

1. Contract Notice as published in <https://ted.europa.eu/udl?uri=TED:NOTICE:349787-2017:TEXT:EN:HTML&src=0>
2. Invitation to participate. Letter from the Head of the Office of the European Union Representative in the West Bank and Gaza Strip to all candidates (Note Ref. Ares(2017)4363401 – 07/09/2017). Attached to this letter there were the template of the Framework Contract and the Tender Specifications;
3. Technical Specifications for security contract for the Office of the European Union Representative in the West Bank and Gaza Strip (Note Ref. Ares(2017)6179907 – 18/12/2017);

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<sup>1</sup> Regulation (EC) No 1049/2001 of the European Parliament and of the Council regarding public access to European Parliament, Council and Commission documents (hereafter the "Regulation").

4. Financial offer from Page Protective Services Ltd. (registered by Note Ares Ares(2018)3017729 – 08/06/2018);
5. Contract Award Notice as published in <https://ted.europa.eu/udl?uri=TED:NOTICE:354599-2018:TEXT:EN:HTML&src=0>
6. Framework contract No EEAS-577-DELWBGJ-SER-FWC-2018 signed by the European Union, represented by the Office of the European Union Representative (West Bank and Gaza Strip, UNRWA) and Page Protective Services Ltd. on 30/07/2018;
7. Specific Contracts number 3 (signed on 07/12/2018), number 4 (signed on 27/02/2019), number 5 (signed on 30/04/2019), number 6 (signed on 08/08/2019) and number 7 (signed on 16/08/2019);
8. Invoices from January to December 2019.

Following our examination of the documents above, I am pleased to forward to you documents 1, 2 and 5 in attachment to this letter. I take this opportunity to remind you that the documents provided may be reused on condition that the source is acknowledged and that you do not distort the original meaning or message of the documents. Please note that the EEAS does not assume liability stemming from their reuse. In case of doubt on reuse, please contact the EEAS for prior authorization.

Concerning documents number 3, 4, 6, 7 and 8, our examination concluded that the documents contain a description of the security setup deployed to protect the Office of the European Union Representative in the West Bank and Gaza Strip and all its assets, located in a high risk environment. Disclosure of these documents to the general public would breach our *duty of care* responsibilities towards our staff and would expose the assets of this Delegation to further security risks by revealing the security procedures and expose possible existing vulnerabilities, if any.

In addition, documents number 4, 7 and 8, also contain sensitive commercial information of the successful candidate, such as the prices that were offered for each post and service and that were a crucial aspect during the evaluation of the tenders. Disclosure of these documents to the general public would harm the legitimate commercial interests of the successful candidate, and the EEAS could be seen as the actor facilitating industrial/corporate espionage.

Therefore, I regret to inform you that we are not in a position to disclose documents 3, 4, 6, 7 or 8 at this point in time, neither as a whole or partially, since it could seriously undermine protection of public security, as well as commercial interests of a legal person as per Article 4(1)(a), first indent and Article 4(2), first indent of the Regulation 1049/2001.

Should you wish this position to be reviewed, you may confirm your initial request by lodging a confirmatory application within 15 working days in accordance with Article 7(2) of the Regulation 1049/2001.

Yours sincerely,

*[e-signed]*

Nereo Penalver Garcia