

DIRECTORATE GENERAL SECRETARIAT

Mr Peter Gil

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31 July 2017

Reference: LS/PT/2017/65

Dear Mr Gil,

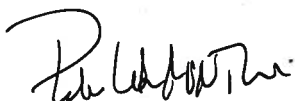
Request for public access to ECB documents

Thank you for your application of 11 July 2017 requesting access to documents including information on *"how many Bank Branch closures there were in Europe in 2016"*.

Having carefully examined your request in line with Decision ECB/2004/3 on public access to ECB documents¹, we have identified one ECB document of relevance to your application for public access, i.e. the EU structural financial indicators, under number of branches, available on the ECB's website under https://sdw.ecb.europa.eu/quickview.do?SERIES_KEY=251.SSI.A.HR.122C.N10.1.L0.Z0Z.Z.

The EU structural financial indicators are a comprehensive dataset reporting structural features of the banking industry in every country of the European Union. Data are reported at national level by all EU countries and comprise aggregated statistics on the number, employees and total assets of all credit institutions, their branches and their subsidiaries. Also data on the share of foreign-controlled institutions in the national banking markets of the EU and insurance corporations and pension funds is available. Counterparts are split by geographic area (domestic, other EA member states, other EU member states, other EEA countries, extra EEA, all areas other than EU and domestic country).

Yours sincerely,



Pedro Gustavo Teixeira
Director General



Roman Schremser
Chief Compliance and Governance Officer

¹ Decision ECB/2004/3 of 4 March 2004 on public access to European Central Bank documents (OJ L 80, 18.3.2004, p. 42), as last amended by Decision ECB/2015/1 (OJ L 84, 28.3.2015, p. 64).