

Brussels, 17, 04, 2019 ENV/E4/DF/kpc

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By registered mail with acknowledgment of receipt and advance copy by e-mail: ask+request-6533-f7704a86@asktheeu.org

Subject: Your application for access to documents - GESTDEM 2019/1421

Dear Mrs Izuzquiza,

I refer to your mail of 7 March 2019 registered on 12 March 2019 under GestDem number 2019/1421.

Your application reads as follows: 'For the period between 26 April 2018 to date: - a list of all lobby meetings held by this DG with Facebook or its intermediaries. The list should include: date, individuals attending and organisational affiliation, as well as the issues discussed; - all minutes and other reports of these meetings; - all correspondence, including attachements (i.e. any emails, correspondence or telephone call notes) between this DG (including the Commissioner and the Cabinet) and Facebook or any intermediaries representing its interests; and - all documents prepared for the purpose of the meeting and/or exchanged during the course of the meeting'.

As you know, Directorate-General 'Environment' (DG ENV) and Directorate-General for Maritime Affairs and Fisheries (DG MARE) both have as their Commissioner Mr Karmenu Vella. By his reply of 12 April 2019 (Ares(2019)2571208) the Director-General of DG MARE already informed you that neither Commissioner Vella and his Cabinet nor DG MARE held meetings with Facebook in the requested period.

As far as DG ENV is concerned, I wish to inform you that DG ENV did not hold any meeting with Facebook in the period covered by your application either.

As specified in Article 2(3) of Regulation (EC) No 1049/2001, the right of access as defined in that regulation applies only to existing documents in the possession of the institution. Given that no such documents, corresponding to the description given in your application, are held by Directorate-General 'Environment', it is not in a position to fulfil your request.

In accordance with Article 7(2) of Regulation (EC) No 1049/2001, you are entitled to make a confirmatory application requesting the Commission to review this position. Such a confirmatory application should be addressed within 15 working days upon receipt of this letter to the Secretariat-General of the Commission at the following address:

p.o. Daniel Calleja

**European Commission** Secretariat-General Transparency, Document Management & Access to Documents (SG.C.1) BERL 7/076 B-1049 Bruxelles or by email to: sg-acc-doc@ec.europa.eu

Yours sincerely,