



EUROPEAN COMMISSION

Directorate-General for Communications Networks, Content and Technology

Resources and Support
Compliance and Planning
Head of Unit

Brussels, 25 May 2020
CONNECT/R4

Mrs Julia REDA
Gesellschaft für Freiheitsrechte e.V.
Hessische Str. 10
10115 Berlin
Germany

Advance copy via email:
[ask+request-7915-
a8f63bf4@asktheeu.org](mailto:ask+request-7915-a8f63bf4@asktheeu.org)

REGISTERED LETTER WITH ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF RECEIPT

Subject: Your application for access to documents - GestDem n° 2020/2478

Dear Mrs Reda,

We refer to your e-mail dated 28/04/2020 wherein you make a request for access to documents, registered on 29/04/2020 under the above mentioned reference number.

In your application you make reference to a letter sent on 20 March 2020 by Dr Riina Kionka, the EU Ambassador to the Republic of South Africa, to Dr. Cassius Reginald Lubisi, Director-General in the Office of the South African President. The letter concerns South Africa's copyright regime.

In this regard, you request access to "[...] any information the Commission has in connection with the letter of 20 March 2020, as well as any information related to the South African Draft Copyright Bill. I do not want this request to be limited to information that was registered as "not short-lived" or "not unimportant". This request should therefore also contain short-lived information such as drafts, inter-agency communication, e-mails, text messages, memos, and follow-up communication, including responses to the letter of 20 March 2020. I am requesting all information, including internal communication, inter-service consultation, communication with the EEAS, any

South African bodies, or with third parties such as external stakeholders regarding or in connection with the letter of 20 March 2020 or the South African Draft Copyright Bill.'

In the emails' exchange you had with SG ACCES DOCUMENT on 28/04/2020, you specified that *'As the EEAS is independent of the European Commission, there must have been communication between the European Commission and the EEAS about the decision to send the letter and its content. [...] As the letter refers to copyright policy and the copyright unit is part of the Directorate General for Networks, Content and Technology, it is likely that the European Commission, and DG CONNECT in particular, holds information in relation to the letter.'*

You have addressed an identical access to document request to DG TRADE, which is the Commission service in charge of the relationship between the Commission and the EEAS.

We would like to inform you that we have identified Commission internal emails whereby DG TRADE consulted DG CONNECT. These emails have been identified as falling within the scope of your request by both DGs. For this reason and given that DG TRADE has identified additional documents within the scope of your request, DG TRADE will respond to both requests, Gestdems 2020/2472 and 2020/2478 in a single response.

You will be receiving the response of DG TRADE shortly.

Yours sincerely,

(e-Signed)
Katleen Engelbosch