Brussels, 24 November 2021

Mr Finbarr Bermingham
Email: ask+request-10045-bf4ee0f5@asktheeu.org

Ref. 21/1689-vl

Request made on: 11.10.2021
Deadline extension: 03.11.2021

Dear Mr Bermingham,

Thank you for your request for access to documents of the Council of the European Union.¹

As a reminder, on 19 October 2021 we wrote you specifying, among others, that, since your request focused on a variety of documents originating from several Council bodies and the European Council, and given the complexity of the matter and the period concerned (from July 2019 until today), we were unable to process your request within the standard deadlines foreseen in Regulation (EC) No 1049/2001. Therefore we invited you to consider narrowing the scope of your request. Moreover, we inviting you to consult our public register of documents, which contains several references to the Council documents some of which are already downloadable, with a view to eventually formulating a more specific request.

On 21 October you replied to us indicating that the request could be narrowed to the period from June 2020 to August 2021, and that it did not concern any more the European Council documents.

Unfortunately, your request is still covering a very long time-span and several Council preparatory bodies. This makes the identification of documents difficult for our institution (including time-consuming consultations), compared to the staff resources available and given also the need to examine at the same time several requests for public access introduced by other citizens.

Consequently, under these circumstances your request cannot be handled within the standard deadlines and will be gradually processed. We will send you our reply in parts as the identification and the examination of the documents concerned is concluded.

Our initial search in our data bases enabled us to identify the following documents corresponding to your request (that are also downloadable from the public register of Council documents https://www.consilium.europa.eu/en/documents-publications/public-register/public-register-search): 14223/21, 7033/21, 10034/20 and 9872/1/20 REV 1 + REV 1 COR 1. Please find them herewith enclosed.

Yours sincerely,

Fernando FLORINDO

(Enclosures)