



Council of the European Union

General Secretariat

Directorate-General Communication and Information - COMM

Directorate Information and Outreach

Information Services Unit / Transparency

Head of Unit

Brussels, 5 January 2022

Mr Stefan Soesanto

Email: Stefan Soesanto <ask+request-10226-a27650a5@asktheeu.org>

Ref. 21/1907-lk/jl

Request made on: 15.11.2021

Deadline extension: 06.12.2021

Dear Mr Soesanto,

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

I regret to inform you that access to document ST 13590/21 cannot be given for the reasons set out below.

Document 13590/21 contains the EU's Operational Action Plan 2022 on Cyber attacks. It sets out the challenges faced by the EU on the field and lists the actions to be undertaken in 2022 to counter cyber attacks.

Release of the information contained in this document would provide hostile circles with sensitive information on the envisaged EU measures to counter cyber attacks, thus facilitating their efforts to neutralise the effect of such measures. Disclosure of the document would therefore undermine the protection of the public interest as regards public security. As a consequence, the General Secretariat has to refuse access to this document.²

¹ The General Secretariat of the Council has examined your request on the basis of the applicable rules: Regulation (EC) No 1049/2001 of the European Parliament and of the Council regarding public access to European Parliament, Council and Commission documents (OJ L 145, 31.5.2001, p. 43) and the specific provisions concerning public access to Council documents set out in Annex II to the Council's Rules of Procedure (Council Decision No 2009/937/EU, OJ L 325, 11.12.2009, p. 35).

² Article 4(1)(a), first indent, of Regulation (EC) No 1049/2001.

We have also looked into the possibility of releasing parts of the document.³ However, as the information contained in the document forms an inseparable whole, the General Secretariat is unable to give partial access.

Pursuant to Article 7(2) of Regulation (EC) No 1049/2001, you may ask the Council to review this decision within 15 working days of receiving this reply. Should you see the need for such a review, you are invited to indicate the reasons thereof.⁴

Yours sincerely,

Fernando FLORINDO

³ Article 4(6) of Regulation (EC) No 1049/2001.

⁴ Council documents on confirmatory applications are made available to the public. Pursuant to data protection rules at EU level (Regulation (EU) No 2018/1725, if you make a confirmatory application your name will only appear in related documents if you have given your explicit consent.