Brussels HR/GI/BA/LM/SS

Mr Maximilian Henning

*e-mail:*ask+request-107393c840880@asktheeu.org

Subject: Your application for access to documents – Ref GestDem No 2022/1222

Dear Sir,

I refer to your e-mail of 18/02/2022 in which you make a request for access to documents, registered on 28/02/2022 under the above mentioned reference number.

You request access to "The report(s) resulting from the HR/DS1/PN/2020/05 call for tenders, published on May 27, 2020 (https://ec.europa.eu/info/tender/security-advice-management-on-guards-services-contract_en)."

Your application concerns the following document:

 Report of 17 December 2020: Security advice on the management of the guards' services contract by Control Risk

Having examined the document requested under the provisions of Regulation (EC) No 1049/2001 regarding public access to documents, I regret to inform you that your application cannot be granted, as disclosure is prevented by exception to the right of access laid down in Article 4 of this regulation.

The document which you seek to obtain contains sensitive information relating to the security of the European Commission. It specifically relates to advice regarding services of guards to the European Commission, their tasks and the whole strategy concerning the Commission's approach to ensuring security in the Commission.

Disclosure of the document requested would undermine the protection of the public interest as regards public security, as laid down in Article 4(1)(a) first indent of Regulation (EC) No 1049/2001, namely that of the Commission for the following reasons: The whole document lays out advice on improving security, on the basis of

potential security gaps at the Commission. If any of this information were to be made public, it could be used by third parties to attack persons or buildings of the European Commission. It could furthermore be used to illegally access Commission information. Hence, disclosure of the requested document would pose a threat to persons, assets and information in the Commission.

We have considered whether partial access could be granted to the document requested. However, we found that the document is entirely covered by the exception laid down in Article 4(1) (a) first indent of Regulation (EC) No 1049/2001.

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 Secretary-General of the Commission at the following address:

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 faithfully,

Electronically signed

Gertrud Ingestad