



**SG.2**  
**Head of Division**

Brussels, 16 May 2022  
eeas.sg.2 (2022) 3000148

To  
Mr Jeroen  
by electronic mail

*Subject: Your request for access to documents of 8 April 2022*  
*Our ref: 2022/062*

Dear Sir,

I would like to thank you for your request for access to documents, which the EEAS has examined in the framework of Regulation (EC) No 1049/2001.<sup>1</sup>

Following your request, we have searched for “*documents which contain the following information:*

- *Mandate / terms of reference / job description of the Counter-Terrorism / Security (CT/security) experts deployed in EU delegations;*
- *Mission letters addressed to the CT/Security experts;*
- *Budget for those CT/Security expert positions (remunerations and operational expenses)”*

in the EEAS filing systems and document management databases.

After this search, the EEAS has identified the following documents matching your request, as referenced hereafter:

1. Council Conclusions on Counter-Terrorism of 9<sup>th</sup> February 2015 (doc. 6048/15);
2. EEAS SG Note to Heads of Delegation: Terms of reference Counter-Terrorism experts in Delegations of 3 November 2015;
3. Mission letters addressed to the CT/Security experts.

Following our examination of the documents above, I am pleased to forward to you document 1 in attachment to this letter.

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<sup>1</sup> Regulation (EC) No 1049/2001 of the European Parliament and of the Council regarding public access to European Parliament, Council and Commission documents (hereafter the "Regulation").

I take this opportunity to remind you that the document provided may be reused on condition that the source is acknowledged and that you do not distort the original meaning or message of the document. Please note that the EEAS does not assume liability stemming from their reuse. In case of doubt on reuse, please do contact the EEAS for prior authorisation.

Concerning documents 2 “*EEAS SG Note to Heads of Delegation: Terms of reference Counter-Terrorism experts in Delegations*” and 3 “*Mission letters addressed to the CT/Security experts*”, please be informed that these provide CT/Security experts with a clear steer on strategic and political priorities in order to contribute to the advancement of the EU’s interests and objectives in the countries to which they are deployed.

The mission letters contain chapters on the core objectives and country-specific thematic focuses of the experts, the experts’ role, including liaison, analysis and reporting, and on information concerning the experts’ relationship with headquarters.

Please note that the note to Heads of Delegation and the mission letters are internal documents, i.e. meant for internal use by the Heads of Delegation and the CT/Security experts. They contain sensitive information, notably in the identified priorities that cannot be disclosed to the public, as it would undermine the protection of the public interest as regards public security and EU’s international relations. Furthermore, it would reveal EU margin of manoeuvre and undermine its positioning as regards its relations with these countries.

Moreover, the mission letters are related to individual persons. We therefore must take into account the relevant provisions of EU law regarding the protection of personal data when dealing with your request. Article 4(1)(b) of Regulation 1049/2001 prevents access "where disclosure would undermine [...] privacy and the integrity of the individual in particular regarding the protection of personal data."

Therefore, I regret to inform you that we are not in a position to disclose these documents at this point in time, neither as a whole or partially, since it would undermine both the protection of personal data, as per Article 4(1)(b) and the public interest as regards security and international relations, as per Article 4(a)(1), first and third indents of the Regulation 1049/2001.

Should you wish this position to be reviewed, you may confirm your initial request by lodging a confirmatory application within 15 working days in accordance with Article 7(2) of the Regulation 1049/2001.

Yours sincerely,

*[e-signed]*

Nereo Penalver Garcia