



EUROPEAN COMMISSION
JOINT RESEARCH CENTRE
The Director-General

Brussels
JRC/SQ/ARES(2022)

Sent via e-mail only to¹

Mr Sebastian Kvist

[ask+request-11135-
2dd9076f@asktheeu.org](mailto:ask+request-11135-2dd9076f@asktheeu.org)

Subject: Your application for access to documents – Ref. GestDem No 2022/2574

Dear Mr Kvist,

I refer to your application dated 26 April 2022 registered on 6 May 2022 under the above-mentioned reference number.

Your request concerns any “*files/documents on incidents regarding Unidentified Flying Objects, Unidentified Aerial Phenomena and Unknown Airborne Objects in European airspace including visual observations and radar reports reported by ATC and flight crews*”.

I inform you that the Commission does not hold any documents that would correspond to the description given in your application.

Indeed, the activities of the JRC in relation to space focus on the Copernicus Emergency Management Service (CEMS). These activities help gathering and providing information for emergency response and disaster risk management.

Through these services the JRC supplies Copernicus with geospatial information in support of disaster management activities. They were, for example, of great use last year for the Spanish government during the volcano eruption in La Palma.

¹ According to standard operational procedure, the reply is usually also sent to you by registered post. Please note, however, that due to the extraordinary health and security measures currently in force during the COVID-19 epidemics, which includes the requirement for all Commission non-critical staff to telework, we are unfortunately not in a position to follow this procedure until further notice. We would therefore appreciate if you could confirm receipt of the present e-mail.

CEMS also provides early warning and monitoring for floods, fires and droughts, with early warnings dispatched to several parts of Europe concerning risk of fires and drought.

You will find more information on Copernicus Emergency Management Service at the following internet address: <https://emergency.copernicus.eu/>

Furthermore, the JRC responsible service works on space applications and technologies with particular focus to navigation, positioning and timing. The service has extensive experience and performs experimental work in order to support the definition of space based services and testing equipment for the users' segment.

As specified in Article 2(3) of Regulation (EC) No 1049/2001, the right of access as defined in that regulation applies only to existing documents in the possession of the institution.

Given that no such documents, corresponding to the description given in your application, are held by the Commission, the Commission is not in a position to fulfil your request.

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 Secretariat-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 Brussels

or by email to: sg-acc-doc@ec.europa.eu

Yours faithfully,

E-signed
Stephen QUEST