



EUROPEAN COMMISSION
Secretariat-General

Directorate C – Transparency, Efficiency & Resources
The Director

Brussels
SG.C.1/PP

Mr Peter Teffer
Follow the Money
Overtoom 197
1054 HT Amsterdam
Netherlands

Copy by email:
ask+request-11451-11f234f3@asktheeu.org

Subject: Your application for public access to documents under Regulation (EC) No 1049/2001 – GESTDEM 2022/3550

Dear Mr Teffer,

I refer to your email of 19 June 2022, registered on the same day, in which you submitted an application for public for access to documents in accordance with Article 6(1) of Regulation (EC) No 1049/2001 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 30 May 2001 regarding public access to European Parliament, Council and Commission documents¹ (hereinafter ‘Regulation (EC) No 1049/2001’), registered under the above-mentioned reference number.

1. SCOPE OF YOUR REQUEST

In your email, you request access to, I quote:

‘documents which contain the following information: All text messages (i.e., SMS messages) and other mobile-phone-based text communications (e.g., WhatsApp, Telegram, iMessage, Facebook Chat, SnapChat, Slack, Facebook and Twitter "direct messages," Signal Messenger, Wire, etc.) exchanged between European Commissioner Frans Timmermans and Dutch Prime Minister Mark Rutte, in the period from 1 November 2014 until 19 June 2022’.

¹ OJ L 145, 31.5.2001, p. 43–48.

Following a thorough search conducted by the European Commission's services responsible, I regret to inform you that the European Commission does not hold any documents that would correspond to the description provided in your application.

As specified in Article 2(3) of Regulation (EC) No 1049/2001, the right of public access to documents, 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 provided in your application, are held by the European Commission, the European Commission is not in a position to fulfil your request.

2. MEANS OF REDRESS

You are entitled to submit a confirmatory application requesting the European Commission to review this position, in accordance with Article 7(2) of Regulation (EC) No 1049/2001.

Such a confirmatory application should be addressed within 15 working days upon receipt of this letter to the Secretariat-General of the European Commission at the following address:

European Commission
Secretariat-General
Unit C.1. 'Transparency, Document Management & Access to Documents'
BERL 7/076
B-1049 Brussels,

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

Yours sincerely,

Tatjana Verrier
Director

