



EUROPEAN COMMISSION
DIRECTORATE-GENERAL
HUMAN RESOURCES AND SECURITY

Director-General

Brussels, **07 AVR. 2014**
DG HR hr.b.1(2014)

Ms Vicky Cann
By email: ask+request-1212-
b9a126df@asktheeu.org

Dear Madam,

Subject: Your application for access to documents – Ref GestDem No 2014/1017

We refer to your e-mail dated 24/02/2014 and registered on the same day in which you make a request for access to documents,

Your application concerns "*all documents which relate to Per Hellström and his move from the European Commission to Apple on sabbatical*". In particular you request "*a note of all Mr Hellström's job titles at the European Commission, including dates held; copies of any and all application(s) that Mr Hellström has made under the Staff Regulations to undertake a sabbatical; and all correspondence, emails or meeting notes related to the authorisation of, and conditions placed on, this new role*".

I have examined your request under the relevant provisions of Regulation 1049/2001 regarding public access to European Parliament, Council and Commission documents. Having regard notably to the right of protection of personal data, I am not in a position to grant you access to any documents. While I have also considered the possibility of granting partial access, I have concluded that this would undermine in the current case the protection of personal data.

I am nevertheless pleased to provide you with the following general information on the process to which your request relates.

Mr Hellström made a request for authorisation of an outside activity during leave on personal grounds in line with Articles 12b and 40 of the Staff Regulations and the Commission Decision on outside activities and assignments (C(2003)9037). He requested authorisation to take up, as of 17 February 2014, the position of Senior Director Government and Regulatory Affairs, Competition Law and Policy in the EMEIA region (Europe, Middle East, India, Africa), with Apple Benelux BV.

On his own initiative Mr Hellström committed not to deal with any cases that he was formally involved in during his time at DG Competition, as well as to refrain during a period of one year after the start of his leave on personal grounds from any professional contacts with his former colleagues of DG Competition, and not to engage in any lobbying which could lead to the existence or possibility of a conflict with the legitimate interests of the Commission.

In compliance with Article 40 of the Staff Regulations, the applicant will refrain from engaging in any lobbying or advocacy activity towards the Commission which could lead to the existence or possibility of a conflict with the legitimate interests of the institution. With these restrictions and provided that the provisions of the Staff Regulations relating to professional secrecy (Articles 17(1) and 17(2)) are strictly complied with, the activity was approved.

I can also provide you with general information on the last jobs held by Mr Hellström.

From 01/06/2012 to 16/02/2014: DG Competition, Head of Unit B3

From 01/09/2007 to 31/05/2012: DG Competition, Head of Unit C3

Finally, a copy of this letter will be sent to the person concerned.

In accordance with Article 7(2) of Regulation 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
Secretary-General
Transparency unit SG-B-5
BERL 5/327
B-1049 Brussels

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

Yours faithfully,



Irene SOUKA