



EUROPEAN COMMISSION
DIRECTORATE-GENERAL FOR AGRICULTURE AND RURAL DEVELOPMENT
Directorate R. Management of resources
R.6. Document management and security

Brussels,
R.6/VK/VA D (2016) 5578159

By registered letter with acknowledgment of receipt

Myriam Douo
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Rue d'Edimbourg 26
1050 Brussels

Advance copy by email:

ask+request-3079-6978a1ee@asktheeu.org

Subject: Your application for access to documents – GestDem 2016/3615

Dear Ms Douo,

We refer to your request for access to documents dated 29 June 2016, registered on 29 July 2016 under the above mentioned reference number.

In your application you request access to the following information / documents:

- 1. A list of or copies of, all invitations received to attend, or speak at, an event organised by a third party, as received by Commissioner Phil Hogan since 1 November 2014.*
- 2. A full list of all external speaking engagements made by Commissioner Phil Hogan since 1 November 2014. This list should include the date and venue of the event, the host(s) and organiser(s) of the event, and the topics discussed.*

As regards point 1, an initial search had yielded a considerable number of documents, and we have requested you by email dated 1 August 2016 to reduce the scope of your request in order to arrive to a manageable number of documents.

By e-mail of 1 August 2016, you have accepted the reduction of your request's temporal scope for point 1, from 20 months to three months of your choice. You have chosen April to June 2016.

A list of all invitations received by Commissioner Hogan does not exist, we have therefore identified and retrieved copies of invitations of which you will find an overview table enclosed.

This overview table should not be considered a list as you have requested. It has been established with the identification of the documents that correspond to the type of documents that you have requested.

Attached please find 98 documents with 26 annexes identified within the scope of your request.

The documents to which you have requested access contain personal data, in particular individuals' names, email addresses and direct phone numbers.

Pursuant to Article 4(1) (b) of Regulation (EC) No 1049/2001, access to a document has to be refused if its disclosure would undermine the protection of privacy and the integrity of the individual, in particular in accordance with Community legislation regarding the protection of personal data. The applicable legislation in this field is Regulation (EC) No 45/2001 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 18 December 2000 on the protection of individuals with regard to the processing of personal data by the Community institutions and bodies and on the free movement of such data¹.

When access is requested to documents containing personal data, Regulation (EC) No 45/2001 becomes fully applicable².

According to Article 8(b) of this Regulation, personal data shall only be transferred to recipients if they establish the necessity of having the data transferred to them and if there is no reason to assume that the legitimate rights of the persons concerned might be prejudiced.

We consider that, with the information available, the necessity of disclosing the aforementioned personal data to you has not been established and that it cannot be assumed that such disclosure would not prejudice the legitimate rights of the persons concerned. Therefore, we are disclosing the documents requested expunged from this personal data.

As regards point 2) an overview of the external engagements of Commissioner Hogan in the form of a list as requested by you does not exist. Information on meetings with the participation of Commissioner Hogan is available in the public domain:

The link below contains an exhaustive list of all the external meetings and speaking engagements in which the Commissioner Hogan participated/attended and was also sent to you by e-mail on 6 June 2016:

<http://ec.europa.eu/transparencyinitiative/meetings/meeting.do?host=55ddae5a-33fa-40b4-87b4-8815e503dc26>

You can also consult the Commission's Press Release Database:

<http://europa.eu/rapid/search.htm>

In case you would disagree with the assessment above, you are entitled, in accordance with Article 7(2) of Regulation 1049/2001, 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:

¹ Official Journal L 8 of 12.1.2001, p. 1

² Judgment of the Court of Justice of the EU of 29 June 2010 in case 28/08 P, Commission/The Bavarian Lager Co. Ltd, ECR 2010 I-06055.

European Commission
Secretary-General
Transparency unit SG-B-4
BERL 5/282
B-1049 Bruxelles

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

Yours sincerely,

Vesselina KOMITSKA

Enclosure: Table of identified documents
98 documents and 26 annexes