



EUROPEAN COMMISSION  
NEIGHBOURHOOD AND ENLARGEMENT NEGOTIATIONS

The Director-General

Brussels,

**By registered letter**

**Subject: Your application for access to documents – Ref GestDem No 2019/1630**

Dear Mr Merino,

I refer to your application dated 15 March 2019<sup>1</sup>, and registered under the reference number GestDem 2019/1630<sup>2</sup>.

In your application, you make a request for:

*“A list of all lobby meetings held by the commissioner in charge of European Neighbourhood Policy and Enlargement Negotiations, Johannes Hahn, or any other member of its Cabinet with any organisations representing churches and/or religious communities since 2014 onwards, including all emails, minutes, reports or any other briefing papers related to all those meetings.”*

On behalf of the Cabinet of Commissioner Hahn, please find below a list of the meetings held by Cabinet Hahn (Commissioner/Cabinet) since the beginning of the mandate with organisations representing churches and/or religious communities<sup>3</sup>.

---

<sup>1</sup> Ref. Ares(2019)1775323

<sup>2</sup> Ref. Ares(2019)1775427

<sup>3</sup> Also available on EUROPA webpages:

[https://ec.europa.eu/commission/commissioners/2014-2019/hahn\\_en#transparency](https://ec.europa.eu/commission/commissioners/2014-2019/hahn_en#transparency)

Mr. Álvaro Merino  
Calle Ricardo Ortiz 61,1B  
28017 Madrid  
Spain

Advance copy by email:  
[ask+request-6630-5872c998@asktheeu.org](mailto:ask+request-6630-5872c998@asktheeu.org)

Organisation	Date
Ukrainian Orthodox Church	18.11.2014
Ukrainian Orthodox Church	21.4.2015
Catholic Church, representation to EU	15.7.2015
Aid to the Church in Need (ACN)	19.2.2016
Islamic Community Bosnia Herzegovina	15.11.2016
Ukrainian Orthodox Church	2.5.2018
Catholic Church, representation to EU	19.10.2018

Since all these meetings were of a short, purely diplomatic courtesy nature, there were no reports, minutes or briefings prepared before or after the meetings. Moreover, there are no emails that can be retrieved because the emails related to the practical arrangements of the meetings did not need to be registered in the Commission internal registration system Ares<sup>4</sup> and were automatically deleted by the system after a fixed period.

As specified in Article 2(3) of Regulation (EC) No 1049/2001<sup>5</sup>, the right of access as defined in that Regulation applies only to existing documents in the possession of the institution. No documents corresponding to the description given in your application have been identified for this 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 its 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-C-1  
BERL 5/327  
B-1049 Bruxelles/Brussel

---

<sup>4</sup> As per Commission Decision of 23 January 2002 amending its Rules of Procedure, C(2002)99, OJ L 21 of 24.01.2002, p.23.

<sup>5</sup> Official Journal L 345 of 29.12.2001, p. 94

or by email to: [sg-acc-doc@ec.europa.eu](mailto:sg-acc-doc@ec.europa.eu)

Yours sincerely,

[e-signed]  
Christian Danielsson