

**EUROPEAN COMMISSION**  
HEALTH AND CONSUMERS DIRECTORATE-GENERAL  
Safety of the Food Chain

**E4 - Nutrition, food composition and information**  
**Head of Unit**

Brussels,  
SANCO/E4/AT/ns

Dear Mr Simkin,

**Subject: Your application for access to documents– Ref. GestDem No 2013/6225.**

We refer to your request dated 8/12/2013 in which you make a request for access to documents, registered on the same date under the above mentioned reference number.

Your application concerns a very large number of documents, which need to be assessed individually. Moreover, the handling of your request involves the assessment of documents originating from Member States. The analysis of these documents, together with the need to consult the Member States concerned in accordance with Article 4(5) of Regulation 1049/2001, cannot be expected to be completed within the normal time limits set out in Article 7 of Regulation 1049/2001.

However, the Regulation also provides for a possibility to confer with applicants in order to find a fair solution when an application concerns a very large number of documents. Article 6(3) provides that *"in the event of an application relating to a very long document or to very large number of documents, the institution concerned may confer with the applicant informally, with a view to finding a fair solution"*.

Based on this provision, we would kindly ask you whether you could narrow down the scope of your request, so as to reduce it to a more manageable amount of documents. If that is not possible and if you maintain your request for access to all documents concerned by your application, we propose to handle your application in successive stages. If you accept this proposal, you could indicate an order of priority, which we will follow as much as possible in handling your application. You will receive, at regular intervals, batches of documents which have been cleared for release or a reasoned reply explaining why some documents cannot be disclosed.

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Mr Michael Simkin

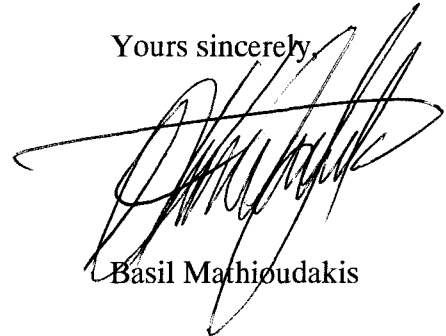
By email: [ask+request-1076-ce99c3aa@asktheeu.org](mailto:ask+request-1076-ce99c3aa@asktheeu.org)

If you have any questions concerning this proposal, you can contact us:

- by email to: [Agnieszka-Anna.Turek@ec.europa.eu](mailto:Agnieszka-Anna.Turek@ec.europa.eu)
- by telephone to: (+32) (0) 2 299 60 54

Thank you in advance for your understanding.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Basil Mathioudakis', written over the printed name.

Basil Mathioudakis