

EUROPEAN COMMISSION

DIRECTORATE-GENERAL FOR COMMUNICATIONS NETWORKS, CONTENT AND TECHNOLOGY

The Director-General

Brussels CNECT.R.4

Peter Teffer Overtoom 197 1054 HT Amsterdam The Netherlands

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

Registered letter with acknowledgement of receipt

Subject: Your request for access to document – GestDem 2022/3525

Dear Mr Teffer,

We refer to your email of 19 June 2022 wherein you make a request for access to documents pursuant to 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 documents (hereinafter 'Regulation (CE) No 1049/2001'), which was registered on 20 June 2022 under the reference number indicated in the subject of this letter.

Your request reads as follows:

"Dear Madam, Sir

Under the right of access to documents in the EU treaties, as developed in Regulation 1049/2001, I am requesting 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 Neelie Kroes and Dutch Prime Minister Mark Rutte, in the period from 14 October 2010 until 1 November 2014

Please note I prefer to receive the documents in digital format, not by physical mail."

We regret to inform you that the Commission does not hold any documents that would correspond to the description given in your application.

Commission services keep and register documents which are important and not short lived. Conversely, documents which do not contain important information, and/or are short-lived and/or do not fall within the institution's sphere of responsibility are not kept by the institution and are not subject to registration.

As specified in Article 2, paragraph 3 of Regulation (EC) No 1049/2001, the right of access 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 given in your application, are held by the Commission, we are not in a position to fulfil your 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 this position.

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

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

or by email to:

sg-acc-doc@ec.europa.eu

Yours sincerely,

Electronically signed

Roberto Viola