



EUROPEAN COMMISSION  
DIRECTORATE-GENERAL  
HUMAN RESOURCES AND SECURITY  
The Director-General

Brussels  
HR.F.5.001/TSS

**SENSITIVE\***: *Staff Matter*

**NOTE FOR THE ATTENTION OF MR. SAMUEL STOLTON**

**Subject: Your application for access to documents – Ref EASE 2023/0065 and EASE 2023/0230**

Dear Mr Stolton,

I refer to your e-mail dated 2 January 2023 in which you make a request for access to documents, which was registered on 3 January 2023 under the above-mentioned reference numbers.

In your application, you request access to “*documents which contain the following information:*”

*Any information regarding gifts received from the government of Qatar and any European Commission officials since 2016. This documentation should include but not be limited to: general communications of any nature, written material of any kind, email correspondences, attendance lists, agendas, background papers, briefing papers, transcriptions of meetings, readouts of meetings, summaries of meetings, briefings for meetings, etc”.*

After having examined your request under the provisions of 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, my services and I understand that it refers to any information and documentation regarding gifts received by the staff members of the European Commission from the Government of Qatar.

In this framework, I consider that your request refers to the notion of gift as referred to in Article 11 of the EU Staff Regulations.

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\* Distribution only on a 'Need to know' basis - Do not read or carry openly in public places. Must be stored securely and encrypted in storage and transmission. Destroy copies by shredding or secure deletion. Full handling instructions: <https://europa.eu/db43PX>

## SENSITIVE

In this context, I would like to inform you that no gift from Qatar Government to any Commission staff member has been reported in the period in subject (i.e. since 2016). Therefore, there are no documents falling under the scope of your request.

Please note that, in accordance with Article 7(2) of Regulation 1049/2001, you are entitled to make a confirmatory application requesting the European 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  
Secretariat-General  
Transparency, Document Management & Access to Documents (SG.C.1)  
BERL 7/076  
B-1049 Bruxelles  
or by email to: [sg-acc-doc@ec.europa.eu](mailto:sg-acc-doc@ec.europa.eu)

Yours sincerely,

Gertrud INGESTAD

Director-General  
Directorate-General for  
Human Resources and  
Security

c.c.: HR-ETHICS@ec.europa.eu  
HR-ACCESS-TO-DOCUMENTS@ec.europa.eu