

## EUROPEAN COMMISSION DIRECTORATE-GENERAL JUSTICE and CONSUMERS

Director-General

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Alexander Fanta netzpolitik.org Schönhauser Allee 6-7 10119 Berlin Germany

By registered letter with acknowledgment of receipt

Advance copy by email: <u>ask+request-5509-76383c97@asktheeu.org</u>

**Subject:** Access to documents request GESTDEM No 2018/2537

Dear Mr Fanta,

We refer to your e-mail dated 30/04/2018 in which you make a request for access to documents, registered on 04/05/2018 under the above mentioned reference number.

You request access to

- 1. Minutes of the meeting of electoral commissions of EU Member States on April 25 and April 26 2018 in Brussels
- 2. All written answers to the Commission's questionnaire sent out to the national election authorities ahead of the meeting on April 25 and April 26
- 3. All documents regarding measures governing the use of social media in the context of the 2019 European elections

**Regarding your application under the first bullet**, I can inform you that the document is currently under preparation and will be published, as all such documents are, on Commission's register of expert groups in due course. The relevant webpage is: <a href="http://ec.europa.eu/transparency/regexpert/index.cfm?do=groupDetail.groupDetail&groupID=617">http://ec.europa.eu/transparency/regexpert/index.cfm?do=groupDetail.groupDetail&groupID=617</a>.

**Regarding your application under the second bullet**, only the following Member States have replied: Austria, Belgium, Bulgaria, Germany, Estonia, Greece, Finland, Croatia, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Latvia, Malta, Rumania, Slovenia and Slovakia.

We enclose a copy of the replies of those Member States.

Please note that these documents were received by the Commission from the competent Member States authorities. They are disclosed for information only and cannot be re-used without the agreement of the originators, who holds a copyright on them. The documents do not reflect the position of the Commission and cannot be quoted as such.

Regarding your application under the third bullet, we regret to inform you that the Commission does not hold any documents that would correspond to the description given in your application.

As specified in Article 2(3) of Regulation 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, the Commission is not in a position to handle your request.

In accordance with Article 7(2) of Regulation 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 Secretary-General of the Commission at the following address:

> **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

> > Tiina ASTOLA