



EUROPEAN COMMISSION
DIRECTORATE-GENERAL
TAXATION AND CUSTOMS UNION

The Director-General

5 - 04, 2019

Brussels,
Taxud E2/SVDV – taxud.e.2(2019)2146523

Mr Alvaro Merino
Calle Ricardo Ortiz 61, 1B
ES – 28017 MADRID

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(via registered letter and e-mail)

Dear Mr Merino,

Subject: Your application for access to documents – Ref GestDem No 2019/1644

We refer to your e-mail dated 19 March 2019 in which you make a request for access to documents, registered under the above-mentioned reference number.

You request access to: *“A list of all lobby meetings held by the commissioner in charge of Taxation and Customs Union, Pierre Moscovici, 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”.*

We regret to inform you that DG Taxation and Customs Union does not hold documents that would correspond to the description given in your application.

Neither the Commissioner, nor members of the Cabinet had meetings with lobbyists representing churches and/or religious communities to discuss topics within the remit of his portfolio.

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 DG Taxation and Customs Union, we are not in a position to handle your request.

You are informed that all meetings that the Commissioner or members of the Cabinet held with organisations or self-employed individuals are made public in the Transparency Register: <http://ec.europa.eu/transparencyinitiative/meetings/meeting.do?host=af65fb60-5ba8-4af1-87ae-edab5dac6afa>

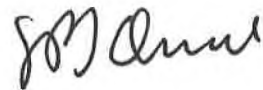
In accordance with Article 7(2) of Regulation 1049/2001, you are entitled to make a confirmatory application requesting the Commission to review this position.

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, Document Management & Access to Documents (SG.C.1)
BERL 5/282
B-1049 Bruxelles

or by email to: sg-acc-doc@ec.europa.eu

Yours faithfully,



Stephen Quest