



AFFGEN.2
Head of Division

Brussels, 3 June 2020
eeas.sg.affgen.2 (2020) 3170872

Ms Jelena von Achenbach

Subject: Your request for access to documents of 16 April 2020

Our ref: 2020/044

Dear Ms von Achenbach,

Thank you for your request for access to documents, which the EEAS has examined in the framework of Regulation (EC) No 1049/2001¹.

The requested document “Food for Thought Paper with regard to the Co-ordinated Annual Review on Defence (CARD)” is indeed in the possession of the EEAS but originates from the European Defence Agency.

We therefore had to launch a third party consultation (in accordance with Article 4 of the Regulation), and I regret to inform you that we have received a negative reply from the European Defence Agency.

The above-mentioned document is a concept paper detailing the various CARD elements, including information on development and availability of capabilities for EU missions and operations. Release of the information contained in the document would compromise the result of this exercise.

Therefore, I regret to inform you that the requested document cannot be disclosed at this point in time, neither as a whole or partially, since it could seriously undermine the defence and military matters as per Article 4(1)(a)2nd indent of the Regulation.

Should you wish this position to be reviewed, you may confirm your initial request within 15 working days.

Yours sincerely,

[e-signed]

Gabriele Visentin

¹ Regulation (EC) No 1049/2001 of the European Parliament and of the Council regarding public access to European Parliament, Council and Commission documents (hereafter the "Regulation").