



EUROPEAN COMMISSION
DIRECTORATE-GENERAL JUSTICE AND CONSUMERS

Director-General (Acting)

Brussels,
JUST.01.002(2021)6378511

Ms Esther BIJL
By e-mail:
[ask+request-9804-
b82c331b@asktheeu.org](mailto:ask+request-9804-b82c331b@asktheeu.org)

Subject: Your application for access to documents – Ref GestDem No 2021/5269

Dear Ms BIJL,

We refer to your e-mail of 24 July 2021 in which you make a request for access to documents, registered on 31 August 2021 under the above mentioned reference number.

You request access to:

“- A list of all internal (DG JUST) meetings that took place between 1 January 2017 and 31 December 2019 in which the United Arab Emirates (UAE) was mentioned in relation to the identification and listing of high-risk third countries in the context of the EU's anti-money laundering and countering the financing of terrorism (AML/CFT) rules;

- Agendas, minutes, reports and other documentation of these meetings;

- All correspondence between DG JUST officials that took place between 1 January 2017 and 31 December 2019 in which the UAE was mentioned in relation to the identification and listing of high-risk third countries in the context of the EU's anti-money laundering and countering the financing of terrorism (AML/CFT) rules. This could include but is not limited to, e-mails, text messages, basis documents, memos or drafts.”

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 (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, the Commission is 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 Bruxelles

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

According to standard operational procedure, the reply to a request for access to documents is usually sent by registered post. Please note, however, that due to the extraordinary health and security measures currently in force during the COVID-19 pandemic, which include the requirement for all Commission non-critical staff to telework, we are unfortunately not in a position to follow this procedure until further notice.

We would therefore appreciate if you could confirm receipt of the present e-mail by replying to JUST-ACCES-DOCUMENTS@ec.europa.eu.

Yours faithfully,

(e-signed)
Salla SAASTAMOINEN