

By registered letter with acknowledgment of receipt

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Dear Sir,

Subject: Your application for access to documents – GESTDEM 2021/8034

We refer to your e-mail of 3 December 2021 in which you make a request for access to documents, registered on 10 December 2021 under the above-mentioned reference number.

You request access to documents containing the following information:

- *“The e-mail exchange between the offices of Karel Pinxten and Commissioner Johannes Hahn mentioned in an article published in French daily "Liberation" on December 1st, 2021*
- *All other documents, including e-mails and internal deliberations, regarding the hunting trip organised by the European Landowners' Organization that Commissioner Hahn participated in”*

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, that is to say, documents that are eligible for registration which means they must fulfil the following criteria: (i) the information relates to the policies, activities or decisions falling within the institution's sphere of responsibility; (ii) the information concerned is important and not short-lived; (iii) the information concerned has been drawn up or received by the Commission.

Your request concerns possible correspondence that does not meet the above mentioned criteria and was therefore not registered by the European Commission. Therefore, there is no document that matches your request in the Commission's institutional archives.

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 Brussels

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

Yours faithfully,

Ms Gertrud Ingestad
Director-General