



Council of the European Union
General Secretariat

Directorate-General Communication and Information - COMM
Directorate Information and Outreach
Information Services Unit / Transparency
Head of Unit

Brussels, 2 December 2024

Youpress
Mr Antoine Hasday
E-mail: ask+request-15135-08afc244@asktheeu.org

Ref. 24/2715

Request made on: 22.10.2024
Deadline extension: 13.11.2024

Dear Mr Hasday,

Thank you for your request for access to documents of the Council of the European Union.¹

I regret to inform you that access to document **ST 14062/24** cannot be given for the reasons set out below.

The requested document contains the Military Advice on the Strategic Review of the EU Military Assistance Mission in Ukraine ([EUMAM UA](#)).² It is a classified document, bearing the classification "**RESTREINT UE/EU RESTRICTED**", which means that the unauthorised disclosure of its contents could be disadvantageous to the interests of the European Union or of one or more of its Member States.³

This document contains a military advice stemming from a thorough analysis of the military and security situation in Ukraine and the implementation of the EU strategy concerning that country.

Given the very sensitive topics, and in the light of our consultations, the General Secretariat of the Council is of the opinion that, if released to the wide public, the contents of the requested document could be used by hostile (state or non-State) entities to cause prejudice to public

¹ The General Secretariat of the Council has examined your request on the basis of the applicable rules: Regulation (EC) No 1049/2001 of the European Parliament and of the Council regarding public access to European Parliament, Council and Commission documents (OJ L 145, 31.5.2001, p. 43) and the specific provisions concerning public access to Council documents set out in Annex II to the Council's Rules of Procedure (Council Decision No 2009/937/EU, OJ L 325, 11.12.2009, p. 35).

² <https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/PDF/?uri=CELEX:32022D1968>

³ Council Decision of 23 September 2013 on the security rules for protecting EU classified information (2013/488/EU), OJ L 274, 15.10.2013, p. 1.

security and to the coordination and synchronisation of all measures to ensure the successful accomplishment of the Mission.

Moreover, its disclosure would be detrimental to public interest as regards international relations of the EU, leading to a breach of trust among the EU institutions, its Member States and partners countries and international organisations as well.

Consequently, public access to document **ST 14062/24** must be denied.⁴

We have also looked into the possibility of releasing parts of the document.⁵ However, as the information contained therein forms an inseparable whole, the General Secretariat is unable to give partial access.

Pursuant to Article 7(2) of Regulation (EC) No 1049/2001, you may ask the Council to review this decision within 15 working days of receiving this reply. Should you see the need for such a review, you are invited to indicate the reasons thereof.

Yours sincerely,

Fernando FLORINDO

⁴ Article 4(1)(a), first, second and third indent of Regulation (EC) No 1049/2001.

⁵ Article 4(6) of Regulation (EC) No 1049/2001.