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Secretariat-General

Directorate B - Institutional and Administrative Policies
SG.B.4-Transparency

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By registered letter:

Ms Helen DARBISHIRE

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**Subject: Your request for access to documents under Regulation 1049/2001-
GestDem 2014/5554**

Dear Ms Darbshire,

We refer to your e-mail dated 20 November 2014, in which you submitted an initial request for access to documents, registered on the same day under reference number Gestdem 2014/5554.

In your application you request access to the seven applications referred to in our e-mail of 18 November 2014 in reply to your initial request registered under Gestdem number 2014/4941. The Commission closed these seven applications following well-founded doubts about the applicants' identity, which were confirmed by the absence of a reply by these applicants, to the Commission's request to provide a valid postal address.

As explained in our e-mail of 18 November, these applications were not refused based on the Commission's new policy to systematically ask applicants for a valid postal address as a prerequisite for dealing with their applications, as that policy only came into force on 1 April 2014.

The Commission has identified the following seven documents falling under the scope of your request:

- Ares(2014)1058421 ("document 1");
- Ares(2014)1058060 ("document 2");
- Ares(2014)607986 ("document 3");
- Ares(2014)609025 ("document 4");

- Ares(2014)608761 ("document 5");
- Ares(2014)607699 ("document 6")
- Ares(2014)68454 ("document 7").

Documents 1, 2 and 6 were processed through AsktheEU.org website and I therefore consider that these documents are in your possession and fall outside the scope of your application.

Please find enclosed a copy of the remaining documents falling under the scope of your request. As, in your initial application Gestdem 2014/4941, you indicated not being interested in the personal data appearing on the documents requested, I assume that the same applies to the annexed documents. Should this not be the case, please come back to us, specifying why these personal data need to be transferred to you and the absence of adverse effects to the legitimate rights of the persons whose personal data should be disclosed.

In your e-mail of 20 November you also indicate that you would like to know the total number of requests made to the Secretariat-General concerning access to documents after April 1st 2014.

I regret to inform you that the Commission does not have such a list, and your request consequently falls outside the scope of Regulation 1049/2001, which only covers existing documents. However, I am pleased to refer you to the Commission's Annual Reports on Access to documents for an overview of the number of initial and confirmatory applications received every year by the Commission: http://ec.europa.eu/transparency/access_documents/reports_en.htm. These reports also provide an overview of the number of requests received per DG.

Yours sincerely,


Martin Kröger
Head of Unit