By registered letter

Subject: Your application for access to documents – Ref GestDem No 2019/1630

Dear Mr Merino,

I refer to your application dated 15 March 2019\(^1\), and registered under the reference number GestDem 2019/1630\(^2\).

In your application, you make a request for:

“A list of all lobby meetings held by the commissioner in charge of European Neighbourhood Policy and Enlargement Negotiations, Johannes Hahn, or any other member of its Cabinet with any organisations representing churches and/or religious communities since 2014 onwards, including all emails, minutes, reports or any other briefing papers related to all those meetings.”

On behalf of the Cabinet of Commissioner Hahn, please find below a list of the meetings held by Cabinet Hahn (Commissioner/Cabinet) since the beginning of the mandate with organisations representing churches and/or religious communities\(^3\).

Ref. Ares(2019)1775323
Ref. Ares(2019)1775427
Also available on EUROPA webpages: https://ec.europa.eu/commission/commissioners/2014-2019/hahn_en#transparency

Mr. Álvaro Merino
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Advance copy by email:
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\(^1\) Ref. Ares(2019)1775323
\(^2\) Ref. Ares(2019)1775427
\(^3\) Also available on EUROPA webpages: https://ec.europa.eu/commission/commissioners/2014-2019/hahn_en#transparency
Since all these meetings were of a short, purely diplomatic courtesy nature, there were no reports, minutes or briefings prepared before or after the meetings. Moreover, there are no emails that can be retrieved because the emails related to the practical arrangements of the meetings did not need to be registered in the Commission internal registration system Ares and were automatically deleted by the system after a fixed period.

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. No documents corresponding to the description given in your application have been identified for this 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 its position. Such a confirmatory application should be addressed within 15 working days upon receipt of this letter to the Secretary-General of the Commission at the following address:

European Commission
Secretary-General
Transparency unit SG-C-1
BERL 5/327
B-1049 Bruxelles/Brussel

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

Yours sincerely,

[e-signed]
Christian Danielsson