

## **FUROPEAN COMMISSION**

DIRECTORATE-GENERAL TAXATION AND CUSTOMS UNION

The Director-General

**3 0. 04. 2019** Brussels, Taxud E2/SVDV – taxud.e.2(2019)2700405

Mrs Giselle A. Rojas Bayona II ES – 28028 MADRID

ask+request-6752-8259203e@asktheeu.org

(via registered letter and e-mail)

Dear Mrs Rojas,

## Subject: Your application for access to documents – Ref GestDem No 2019/2080

We refer to your e-mail dated 1 April 2019 in which you make a multi-Directorate General request for access to documents, registered under the above-mentioned reference number.

You request access to documents of meetings of different (present and former) Commissioners with the Apostolic Nuncio, Mr Lebeaupin. The following request was assigned to Directorate General Taxation and Customs Union (DG TAXUD):

"All documents - including but not limited to minutes, notes, audio recordings, verbatim reports, operational conclusions, e-mails, and presentations — produced, exchanged and related to the following meetings between Alain Paul Lebeaupin, Apostolic Nuncio, Head of the Mission of the Holy See to the European Union and at the time:

-Algirdas ŠEMETA, Taxation, Customs, Statistics, Audit and Anti-Fraud, 4 November 2013".

Your request concerns a meeting of the former Commissioner Šemeta who is not in office anymore. With the assistance of the office (OIB) that is in charge of the former Commissioners' archives, my services could identify that a meeting between the former Commissioner and the Apostolic Nuncio took place on 5 November 2013. Monseigneur Lebeaupin asked for a <u>courtesy visit</u> to get to know the Commissioner. No particular meeting documents (such as briefings or summaries) to discuss certain topics were drafted. As a consequence, we regret to inform you that DG TAXUD does not hold any documents that would correspond to the description given in your application.

Commission européenne, B-1049 Bruxelles / Europese Commissie, B-1049 Brussel - Belgium. Telephone: (32-2) 299 11 11. Office: J-79 (5/230) Telephone: direct line (32-2) 2965897

As specified in Article 2(3) of Regulation 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 DG Taxation and Customs Union, we are not in a position to handle your request.

In accordance with Article 7(2) of Regulation 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 Secretary-General of the Commission at the following address:

European Commission
Secretary-General
Transparency, Document Management & Access to Documents (SG.C.1)
BERL 5/282
B-1049 Bruxelles

or by email to: sg-acc-docaec.europa.eu

Yours faithfully,

Monul Stephen Quest