



## European Ombudsman

**Emily O'Reilly**  
European Ombudsman

Ms Federica Mogherini

High Representative of the Union for Foreign  
Affairs and Security Policy

European External Action Service (EEAS)

ombudsman@eeas.europa.eu

Strasbourg, 22/07/2019

Complaint 935/2018/EA

**Subject:** Decision of the European Ombudsman in the above case concerning the handling of requests for public access to EUNAVFOR Med Operation Sophia's documents

Dear Ms Mogherini,

Please find enclosed a copy of my above decision, which has been sent to the complainant, Mr [REDACTED]

On the basis of my inquiry into this complaint, I have decided to close it with the following conclusion:

**There was no maladministration by the EEAS.**

**The Ombudsman welcomes the decision of Operation Sophia to adopt an access to documents policy.**

In addition, I have considered it useful to make the following suggestion for improvement to the EEAS:

**The EEAS should communicate Operation Sophia's draft policy on dealing with requests for public access to documents to other civilian and military missions and operations and encourage them to adopt similar rules. The Ombudsman asks the EEAS to inform her about the follow-up measures taken by these missions and operations within six months.**



I would be grateful if the EEAS could inform me by 22 January 2020 of any action it has taken in relation to my suggestion for improvement and of any follow-up it has received from civilian and military missions and operations.

Please also find enclosed my letter to Operation Sophia.

Yours sincerely,

Emily O'Reilly  
European Ombudsman

Enclosures:

- Decision on complaint 935/2018/EA
- Ombudsman's letter to Operation Sophia