



EUROPEAN COMMISSION  
DIRECTORATE-GENERAL FOR INTERNAL MARKET, INDUSTRY, ENTREPRENEURSHIP  
AND SMES

The Director-General

Brussels  
GROW.B.1

Mr Bas VAN BEEK  
Postbus 3303, 1001 AC –  
Amsterdam  
By email: [ask+request-13474-  
91b6d10b@asktheeu.org](mailto:ask+request-13474-91b6d10b@asktheeu.org)

**Subject: Your application for access to documents – EASE 2023/5196**

Dear Mr. Van Beek,

We refer to your e-mail of 6 September 2023 in which you make a request for access to documents, registered on the same day under the above-mentioned reference number.

You requested access to following documents:

*All documents (including but not limited to email correspondence, minutes, notes, participant lists, agenda and presentations) between Jan 2019 and present relating to meetings and/or communications between the European Automobile Manufacturers Association (ACEA) and staff/officials of DG GROW, and pertaining to the following topics: the ‘General Data Protection Regulation’, the ‘Guidelines 1/2020 on processing personal data in the context of connected vehicles and mobility related applications’, the ‘Data Act’, ‘in-vehicle data’, ‘connected and automated driving’ and ‘Working Group 5, Subgroup: Access to and exchange of data & Cybersecurity (E03657/5)’.*

*In your answer to a clarification request, you indicated following meetings:*

- *Date: 19-01-2023, Subject: Unknown, Attending: Elina Laurinen,*
- *Date: 28-06-2022, Subject: Data Act, preparation of access to in-vehicle data  
Attending: Joan Canton*
- *Date: 26-10-2021, Subject: Data Attending: Thierry Breton and Joan Canton*
- *Date: 11-10-2021, Subject: Preparation forthcoming meeting with Commissioner  
on 26-10-2021, Attending: Joan Canton*
- *Date: 03-09-2021, Subject: Preparation forthcoming meeting with Commissioner  
on 26-10-2021, Attending: Joan Canton*

- *Date: 25-06-2021, Subject: Access to in-vehicle-data, Attending: Joan Canton*
- *Date: 19-05-2021, Subject: Data, Attending: Thierry Breton*
- *Date: 07-05-2021, Subject: Preparatory meeting for the meeting with the Commissioner on 19-05-2021, Attending: Joan Canton*
- *Date: 13-05-2020, Subject: Automotive Industry, Attending: Thierry Breton and Lucia Caudet*

We have identified the five enclosed documents that fall within the scope of your request:

1. Letter of ACEA President to Commissioner Thierry Breton relating to the meeting on 19.05.21.
2. Letter of Daimler Truck to Commissioner Thierry Breton relating to the meeting on 19.05.21.
3. Reply to Daimler Truck relating to the meeting on 19.05.22.
4. Minutes of the meeting with ACEA on 07.05.21.
5. Minutes of the meeting with FT-TB-ACEA-CLEPA on 13.05.20.

A complete disclosure of those documents is prevented by the exception concerning the protection of privacy and the integrity of the individual outlined in Article 4(1)(b) of Regulation (EC) No 1049/2001, because they contain the following personal data:

- the names/initials, contact information and functions of Commission staff members not pertaining to the senior management;
- the names/initials, contact details and functions of other natural persons.

Article 9(1)(b) of the Data Protection Regulation does not allow the transmission of these personal data, except if you prove that it is necessary to have the data transmitted to you for a specific purpose in the public interest and where there is no reason to assume that the legitimate interests of the data subject might be prejudiced. In your request, you do not express any particular interest to have access to these personal data nor do you put forward any arguments to establish the necessity to have the data transmitted for a specific purpose in the public interest.

Consequently, I conclude that, pursuant to Article 4(1)(b) of Regulation (EC) No 1049/2001, access cannot be granted to the personal data contained in the requested documents, as the need to obtain access thereto for a purpose in the public interest has not been substantiated and there is no reason to think that the legitimate interests of the individuals concerned would not be prejudiced by disclosure of the personal data concerned.

Please note that the documents originating from third parties – 1, 2 - are disclosed to you based on Regulation (EC) No 1049/2001. However, this disclosure is without prejudice to the rules on intellectual property, which may limit your right to reproduce or exploit the released document without the agreement of the originator, who may hold an intellectual property right on it. The European Commission does not assume any responsibility from their reuse.

Please note that the minutes were drawn up for internal use under the responsibility of the concerned services. They solely reflect the service's interpretation of the interventions made and do not set out any official position of the third parties to which the documents refer,

which were not consulted on its content. They do not reflect the position of the Commission and cannot be quoted as such.

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 this position.

Such a confirmatory application should be addressed to the Secretariat-General of the Commission within 15 working days upon receipt of this letter. You can submit it in one of the following ways:

by asking for a review via your portal<sup>1</sup> account (available only for initial requests submitted via the portal account),

or by mail:

European Commission  
Secretariat-General  
Transparency, Document Management & Access to Documents (SG.C.1)  
BERL 7/076  
B-1049 Bruxelles

or by email to: [sg-acc-doc@ec.europa.eu](mailto:sg-acc-doc@ec.europa.eu)

Yours faithfully,

Kerstin JORNA  
Director-General

(electronically signed)

---

<sup>1</sup> <https://www.ec.europa.eu/transparency/documents-request>