



EUROPEAN COMMISSION  
DIRECTORATE-GENERAL  
CLIMATE ACTION

Acting Director-General

Brussels  
CLIMA/A1

Peter Teffer  
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1054 HT Amsterdam  
The Netherlands

By email to: ask+request-11668-  
d673873f@asktheeu.org

**Subject: Your application for access to documents – Ref GestDem No  
2022/4425**

Dear Mr Teffer,

We refer to your e-mail of 2 August 2022 in which you make a request for access to documents, registered on 3 August 2022 under the above-mentioned reference number.

You requested access to “*All documents - including but not limited to minutes, (hand-written) notes, audio recordings, verbatim reports, operational conclusions, lines to take, briefings, e-mails, letters, and presentations - related to the meetings with McKinsey held on the following dates:*

- i. 24-07-2020 - *Diederik Samsom (Cabinet member) European Green Deal Green stimulus*
- ii. 26-06-2020 - *Diederik Samsom (Cabinet member) European Green Deal Virtual meeting "Post-COVID stimulus: How to bring EU economic and environmental priorities together "*
- iii. 06-03-2020 - *Diederik Samsom (Cabinet member) European Green Deal European Green Deal*
- iv. 07-04-2022 - *Daniel Mes (Cabinet member) European Green Deal Meeting with CEO Alliance on Digitising Energy Action Plan”.*

Your application concerns the following documents, identified by the Cabinet of Executive Vice-President Frans Timmermans:

1. Ares(2022)5706087– Email from McKinsey dated 26 June 2020.
2. Ares(2022)5706087 – annex 1 to the above mentioned email
3. Ares(2022)5706087– annex 2 to the above mentioned email
4. Ares(2022)5706087 – Email from McKinsey dated 3 June 2020.
5. Ares(2022)5706233 – Email exchange between the European Commission and McKinsey dated 16 July 2020.

Please note that since the documents originate from a third party, the originator of the documents has been consulted pursuant to Article 4(4) of Regulation (EC) No 1049/2001.

Following an examination of the identified documents under the provisions of Regulation (EC) No 1049/2001 regarding public access to documents, I regret to inform you that a complete disclosure of the documents 1, 3 and 5 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: names and contact information of Commission staff members not pertaining to the senior management; names and contact details of other natural persons and other information relating to an identified or identifiable natural person.

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 above-mentioned 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.

As regards document 3, following its examination under the provisions of Regulation (EC) No 1049/2001 and taking into account the opinion of the third party, I regret to inform you that access cannot be granted as disclosure is prevented by Article 4(2) first indent of Regulation (EC) No 1049/2001. The author of the document has objected to its disclosure as the document includes commercially sensitive details which allow for drawing conclusions about methodologies in advising clients, which, in case of disclosure, could detrimentally affect their competitive position in the consulting sector.

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 within 15 working days upon receipt of this letter to the Secretariat-General of the Commission at the following address:

European Commission

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

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

Yours sincerely,

*(e-signed)*

Clara DE LA TORRE