

Brussels, 9.8.2021 COM(2021) 459 final

ANNEX

ANNEX

to the

REPORT FROM THE COMMISSION

on the application in 2020 of Regulation (EC) No 1049/2001 regarding public access to European Parliament, Council and Commission documents

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Statistics relating to the application of Regulation (EC) No 1049/2001

1. THE NUMBER OF DOCUMENTS ENTERED IN THE REGISTER

	C	СОМ	JOIN	OJ	P	PV	SEC	SWD	Total
2019	14,796	1,436	44	127	/	83	1,324	522	18,337
2020	15,726	1,839	50	119	5	79	1,553	478	19,849

2. THE CONSULTATION OF THE ACCESS-TO-DOCUMENTS WEBSITE ON EUROPA

	VISITORS	PAGES VIEWED
20191	6,642	10,112
2020	14,716	24,429

3. THE NUMBER OF INITIAL APPLICATIONS RECEIVED AND HANDLED

	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020
Applications registered	6,077	6,255	6,912	7,445	8,001
Replies given ²	7,139	6,716	7,257	8,449	9,181
Replies given based on Regulation (EC) No 1049/2001	5,945	5,181	6,117	7,612	8,164

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¹ Due to the selection of a new algorithm in 2018 in order to get more accurate statistics, the data retrieved are not comparable to the ones of the previous years.

A single request can concern several documents and can consequently give rise to several different replies. On the other hand, several requests can be grouped together in some cases and give rise only to one single reply. This number encompasses all types of follow-ups provided by the European Commission, extending from replies provided under Regulation (EC) No 1049/2001 (including replies where no documents are held); to responses provided under different legal frameworks (due to the contents of the application or status of the applicant, etc.); or closures following the applicants' failure to provide requested clarifications or fulfil procedural requirements.

4. THE NUMBER OF CONFIRMATORY APPLICATIONS RECEIVED AND HANDLED

	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020
Applications registered	295	299	318	334	309
Replies given	258	300	326	319	298
Replies given based on Regulation (EC) No 1049/2001	220	259	288	296	265

5. THE REPLIES GIVEN PER DIRECTORATE-GENERAL OR SERVICE

	INITIAL STAGE (%)			MATORY SE (%)
	2019	2020	2019	2020
Secretariat-General – SG	8.61	10.22	7.19	7.77
Legal Service – SJ	4.12	2.71	2.40	4.53
Directorate-General for Communication – DG COMM	0.55	0.24	0.90	0.65
Inspire, Debate, Engage and Accelerate Action – IDEA	0.08	0.02	0.60	0
Task Force for Relations with the United Kingdom – UKTF	0.54	0.37	0.60	0.97
Directorate-General for Budget – DG BUDG	0.94	1.01	0.90	0.97
Directorate-General for Human Resources and Security Human including Office for Infrastructure and Logistics in Luxembourg and Office for Administration and Payment of Individual Entitlements – DG HR, OIL, PMO	2.40	2.77	4.79	3.24
Directorate-General for Informatics – DG DIGIT	0.43	0.32	0	0.32
Internal Audit Service – IAS	0.07	0.04	0.30	0.32
European Anti-Fraud Office ³ – OLAF	0.24	0.20	0.00	0
Directorate-General for Economic and Financial Affairs – DG ECFIN	1.25	1.69	1.80	2.91
Directorate-General for Internal Market, Industry, Entrepreneurship and SMEs – DG GROW	6.93	7.14	5.39	4.85
Directorate-General for Defence Industry and Space DG DEFIS	0.03	0.61	0.00	0.65
Directorate-General for Competition – DG COMP	5.70	6.17	8.68	15.21

³ The data for the European Anti-Fraud Office (OLAF) concern the applications for access to documents as regards its administrative activities, which are recorded in the same IT system as used by other European Commission departments (GestDem). The applications for access to documents concerning OLAF's investigative activities are not the subject of this report.

Directorate-General for Employment, Social Affairs and Inclusion – DG EMPL	2.34	2.56	2.10	3.56
Directorate-General for Agriculture and Rural Development – DG AGRI	3.13	2.50	2.40	1.62
Directorate-General for Mobility and Transport – DG MOVE	4.74	4.50	1.80	0.97
Directorate-General for Energy – DG ENER	3.16	3.84	1.80	8.09
Directorate-General for Environment – DG ENV	3.87	3.31	3.89	3.88
Directorate-General for Climate Action – DG CLIMA	1.67	1.99	1.20	0.65
Directorate-General for Research and Innovation – DG RTD	2.07	1.36	2.10	0.97
Directorate-General for Communications Networks, Content and Technology – DG CNECT	2.26	2.71	6.29	1.62
Joint Research Center – JRC	0.32	0.21	0.30	0.65
Directorate-General for Maritime Affairs and Fisheries – DG MARE	1.37	0.69	1.20	0.97
Directorate-General for Financial Stability, Financial Services and Capital Markets Union – DG FISMA	3.41	4.00	2.40	1.29
Directorate-General for Regional and Urban Policy -DG REGIO	3.76	1.75	1.50	0.65
Directorate-General for Structural reform Support – DG REFORM	0.00	0.10	0.00	0.32
Directorate-General for Taxation and Customs Union – DG TAXUD	4.02	4.70	4.19	3.24
Directorate-General for Education, Youth, Sport and Culture – DG EAC	0.82	0.61	1.80	0
Directorate-General for Health and Food Safety – DG SANTE	8.38	7.69	2.69	8.74
Directorate-General for Migration and Home Affairs – DG HOME	4.26	4.81	5.99	3.56
Directorate-General for Justice and Consumers – DG JUST	3.13	3.01	3.59	3.88
Directorate-General for Trade – DG TRADE	6.02	3.81	10.18	5.18
Directorate-General for Neighbourhood Policy and Enlargement Negotiations – DG NEAR	2.46	2.25	2.99	2.27
Directorate-General for International Cooperation and Development – DG DEVCO	3.85	7.29	2.40	1.62
Directorate-General for European Civil Protection and Humanitarian Aid Operations – DG ECHO	0.44	0.72	0	0.65
Eurostat – ESTAT	0.23	0.26	0.30	0.97
Directorate-General for Interpretation – DG SCIC	0.08	0.02	0	0
Directorate-General for Translation – DG DGT	0.23	0.06	0	0.32
Publications Office of the European Union – OP	0.04	0.04	0.30	0

Service for Foreign Policy Instruments ⁴ – FPI	1.54	1.49
Office for Infrastructure and Logistics in Brussels – OIB	0.26	0.02
European Personnel Selection Office – EPSO	0.30	0.15
Total (%)	100	100

1.80	0.65
0.30	0
2.99	1.29
100	100

6. THE SOCIAL AND OCCUPATIONAL PROFILE OF APPLICANTS

	INITIAL STAGE (%)		
	2019	2020	
Academic institution/Think tank	12.18	10.69	
Company/Business association	10.42	11.72	
Journalist	8.14	7.90	
Law firm/self-employed attorney	9.36	8.92	
MEP/assistant MEP	0.73	1.30	
Non-governmental organization (NGO)	5.75	5.96	
Member States under Regulation (EC) No 1049/2001	1.69	1.50	
(Sub)national authority	0.63	0.66	
Not specified (Citizens)	51.09	51.34	
Total (%)	100	100	

CONFIRMATORY STAGE (%)					
2019	2020				
4.79	6.15				
4.49	7.12				
11.08	15.53				
14.37	12.94				
0.30	3.24				
12.57	14.89				
0.60	0.32				
0.30	0				
51.50	39.81				
100	100				

7. THE GEOGRAPHICAL ORIGIN OF APPLICANTS

	INITIAL STAGE (%)					
	2019	2020				
EU MEMBER STATES						
Belgium	30.95	30.63				
Bulgaria	0.93	0.49				
Czechia	0.98	1.12				
Denmark	1.88	1.71				
Germany	11.91	11.91				
Estonia	0.13	0.25				
Ireland	1.53	1.51				

CONFIRMATORY STAGE (%)				
2019 2020				
33.23	27.51			
0.30	0.97			
2.10	1.29			
1.50	0.32			
14.07	15.53			
0	0			
2.69	1.94			

⁴ Since the creation of the European External Action Service (EEAS), only documents of the Service for Foreign Policy Instruments are retained within the European Commission.

Greece	1.18	1.34
Spain	5.94	5.16
France	8.01	8.81
Croatia	0.52	0.19
Italy	5.52	7.65
Cyprus	0.11	0.12
Latvia	0.04	0.14
Lithuania	0.46	0.50
Luxembourg	1.45	1.06
Hungary	0.66	0.79
Malta	0.26	0.32
Netherlands	4.97	5.85
Austria	1.48	1.94
Poland	2.22	1.97
Portugal	1.21	0.61
Romania	0.75	0.79
Slovenia	0.30	0.31
Slovakia	0.38	0.50
Finland	0.86	1.14
Sweden	0.99	1.46
United Kingdom	7.78	0.49
THIRD COUNTRIES		
Non-EU European countries	3.88	9.36
Africa	0.24	0.11
Asia	1.02	0.75
Australia and New Zealand	0.50	0.12
North America	0.95	0.75
South America	0.03	0.12
Not specified ⁵	0	0
Total (%)	100	100

2.99	3.56
12.87	6.80
5.09	6.47
1.80	0.32
5.09	6.80
0.30	0
0	0.65
0	0.65
0	0.32
0	1.29
0	0.32
4.19	8.41
0.90	1.29
0.60	2.27
0.30	0.32
0	0.32
0.60	0.32
0.60	0.32
0.30	1.29
0	0.32
8.98	1.94
0.90	7.77
0	0
0.30	0.32
0	0
0.30	0.32
0	0
0	0
100	100

⁵ This category appears in the statistics because in cases, where the initial application was not submitted via the online tool, it was encoded manually and in certain cases, due to a clerical error, the country of the applicant was not indicated in the IT system used for the management of the access to documents cases (GestDem).

8. THE TYPE OF REPLIES GIVEN AT THE INITIAL STAGE

	20	16	20	17	20	18	20	19	20	20
	No	%	No	%	No	%	No	%	No	%
Full access granted	3,622	60.93	3,201	61.78	3,633	59.39	4018	52.79	4549	55.72
Partial access granted	1,214	20.42	1,050	20.27	1,274	20.83	1888	24.80	2062	25.26
Access refused	1,109	18.65	930	17.95	969	15.84	980	12.87	834	10.22
No documents held	0	0	0	0	241	3.94	726	9.54	719	8.81
Total	5,944	100	5,181	100	6117	100	7612	100	8164	100

9. THE TYPE OF REPLIES GIVEN AT THE CONFIRMATORY STAGE

	20	16	20	17	20	18	20	19	20	20
	No	%								
Full revision – Full access granted	11	5.00	14	5.40	19	6.60	22	7.43	8	3.02
Partial revision – Partial access granted	104	47.27	108	41.70	98	34.03	136	45.95	91	34.34
Confirmation of initial reply – Access refused	105	47.73	137	52.90	120	41.67	89	30.07	131	49.43
No documents held	0	0	0	0	51	17.70	49	16.55	35	13.21
Total	220	100	259	100	288	100	296	100	265	100

10. THE REFUSAL OF ACCESS BY EXCEPTION APPLIED

Exceptions as set out in Article 4 of	INITIAL STAGE (%)			
Regulation (EC) No 1049/2001	2019	2020		
4.1(a), 1st indent – Protection of the public interest as regards public security	9.20	6.40		
4.1(a), 2nd indent – Protection of the public interest as regards defence and military matters	0.10	0.23		
4.1(a), 3rd indent – Protection of the public interest as regards international relations	5.28	5.35		
4.1(a), 4th indent – Protection of the public interest as regards the financial, monetary or economic policy of EU or a Member State	0.66	1.74		
4.1(b) – Protection of privacy and the integrity of the individual	41.05	44.08		
4.2, 1st indent – Protection of commercial interests	15.01	14.24		

CONFIRMATORY STAGE (%)				
2019	2020			
5.02	3.91			
0	0			
18.41	7.83			
0.84	1.74			
22.18	26.52			
12.13	14.35			

4.2, 2nd indent – Protection of court proceedings and legal advice	3.79	3.77
4.2, 3rd indent – Protection of the purpose of inspections, investigations and audits	13.42	11.59
4.3, first subparagraph – Decision-making process where no decision has been taken yet	10.16	9.71
4.3, second subparagraph – Decision-making process where the decision has already been taken (opinions for internal use as part of deliberations and preliminary consultations)	0.90	2.53
4.4 and 4.5 – Refusal by a Member State or a third party ⁶	0.43	0.36
Total (%)	100	100

4.60	2.61
24.27	33.04
8.37	4.78
4.18	5.22
/	1
100	100

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⁶This category is no longer used, as it does not constitute an exception within the meaning of Article 4 of Regulation (EC) No 1049/2001. Nevertheless, it still appears as the raw data available did not in all cases enable a ventilation in accordance with the exceptions of Article 4 of Regulation (EC) No 1049/2001.