

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

1. **The Number of documents entered in the register**

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | **C** | **COM** | **JOIN** | **OJ** | **PV** | **SEC** | **SWD** | **Total** |
| **2017** | 14,749 | 1,850 | 120 | 129 | 96 | 1,373 | 508 | **18,825** |
| **2018** | 15,297 | 2,123 | 82 | 120 | 76 | 1,366 | 518 | **19,582** |

1. **The Consultation of the access-to-documents website on Europa**

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **2018[[1]](#footnote-1)** | **VISITORS** | **PAGES VIEWED** |
| **Total** | 6,458 | 8,652 |

1. **The Number of initial applications received and handled**

|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | **2014** | **2015** | **2016** | **2017** | **2018** |
| Applications registered | 6,227 | 6,752 | 6,077 | 6,255 | 6,912 |
| Replies given[[2]](#footnote-2) | 7,156 | 7,684 | 7,139 | 6,716 | 7,257 |
| Replies given based on Regulation (EC) No 1049/2001 | 5,637 | 5,819 | 5,945 | 5,181 | 6,117 |

1. **The Number of confirmatory applications received and handled**

|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | **2014** | **2015** | **2016** | **2017** | **2018** |
| Applications registered | 300 | 284 | 295 | 304 | 318 |
| Replies given | 327 | 291 | 258 | 300 | 326 |
| Replies given based on Regulation (EC) No 1049/2001 | 272 | 230 | 220 | 259 | 288 |

1. **The Replies given per directorate-general or service**

|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | **INITIAL STAGE**  **(%)** | |  | **CONFIRMATORY STAGE (%)** | |
| **2017** | **2018** |  | **2017** | **2018** |
| Secretariat-General – SG | 5.84 | 6.73 |  | 3.29 | 8.49 |
| Legal Service – SJ | 3.69 | 3.23 |  | 3.29 | 4.72 |
| Directorate-General for Communication – DG COMM | 0.30 | 0.43 |  | 0.99 | 0 |
| European Political Strategy Centre – EPSC | 0.05 | 0.04 |  | 0 | 0.32 |
| Task Force for the Preparation and Conduct of the Negotiations with the United Kingdom under Article 50 TEU – TF50 | 0.42 | 0.55 |  | 0.66 | 0.63 |
| Directorate-General for Budget – DG BUDG | 0.50 | 0.81 |  | 0.33 | 0.31 |
| 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 | 4.17 | 1.95 |  | 2.96 | 3.46 |
| Directorate-General for Informatics – DG DIGIT | 1.31 | 0.54 |  | 0.33 | 0 |
| Internal Audit Service – IAS | 0.10 | 0.16 |  | 0 | 2.20 |
| European Anti-Fraud Office[[3]](#footnote-3) – OLAF | 0.37 | 0.27 |  | 0 | 0 |
| Directorate-General for Economic and Financial Affairs – DG ECFIN | 0.90 | 0.95 |  | 0 | 0 |
| Directorate-General for Internal Market, Industry, Entrepreneurship and SMEs – DG GROW | 6.31 | 6.52 |  | 7.89 | 6.60 |
| Directorate-General for Competition – DG COMP | 9.86 | 5.86 |  | 19.74 | 13.84 |
| Directorate-General for Employment, Social Affairs and Inclusion – DG EMPL | 2.78 | 1.87 |  | 2.96 | 3.14 |
| Directorate-General for Agriculture and Rural Development – DG AGRI | 2.01 | 3.17 |  | 0.33 | 2.20 |
| Directorate-General for Mobility and Transport – DG MOVE | 4.27 | 5.18 |  | 4.93 | 1.26 |
| Directorate-General for Energy – DG ENER | 2.67 | 2.69 |  | 2.30 | 2.20 |
| Directorate-General for Environment – DG ENV | 3.95 | 4.96 |  | 2.96 | 3.77 |
| Directorate-General for Climate Action – DG CLIMA | 1.52 | 1.50 |  | 1.64 | 1.57 |
| Directorate-General for Research and Innovation – DG RTD | 1.97 | 1.65 |  | 1.32 | 0.94 |
| Directorate-General for Communications Networks, Content and Technology – DG CNECT | 2.33 | 2.58 |  | 5.92 | 5.66 |
| Joint Research Center – JRC | 0.19 | 0.26 |  | 1.00 | 0.32 |
| Directorate-General for Maritime Affairs and Fisheries – DG MARE | 1.42 | 1.35 |  | 0.99 | 1.89 |
| Directorate-General for Financial Stability, Financial Services and Capital Markets Union – DG FISMA | 7.48 | 4.53 |  | 2.30 | 1.26 |
| Directorate-General for Regional and Urban Policy –DG REGIO | 1.73 | 2.24 |  | 0.66 | 1.26 |
| Directorate-General for Taxation and Customs Union – DG TAXUD | 4.86 | 6.42 |  | 5.92 | 3.77 |
| Directorate-General for Education, Youth, Sport and Culture – DG EAC | 0.46 | 1.50 |  | 0.99 | 0 |
| Directorate-General for Health and Food Safety – DG SANTE | 7.93 | 11.00 |  | 5.92 | 7.86 |
| Directorate-General for Migration and Home Affairs – DG HOME | 2.46 | 3.39 |  | 3.29 | 2.83 |
| Directorate-General for Justice and Consumers – DG JUST | 2.30 | 3.52 |  | 6.25 | 5.66 |
| Directorate-General for Trade – DG TRADE | 4.24 | 4.37 |  | 1.32 | 3.15 |
| Directorate-General for Neighbourhood Policy and Enlargement Negotiations – DG NEAR | 1.92 | 2.63 |  | 3.34 | 4.09 |
| Directorate-General for International Cooperation and Development – DG DEVCO | 3.05 | 4.69 |  | 3.95 | 1.57 |
| Directorate-General for European Civil Protection and Humanitarian Aid Operations – DG ECHO | 5.29 | 0.33 |  | 0.33 | 0.31 |
| Eurostat – ESTAT | 0.13 | 0.12 |  | 0.66 | 0 |
| Directorate-General for Interpretation – DG SCIC | 0.02 | 0 |  | 0 | 0 |
| Directorate-General for Translation – DG DGT | 0.05 | 0.07 |  | 0 | 0 |
| Publications Office of the European Union – OP | 0.13 | 0.06 |  | 0 | 0 |
| Service for Foreign Policy Instruments[[4]](#footnote-4) – FPI | 0.48 | 1.32 |  | 0 | 0.94 |
| Office for Infrastructure and Logistics in Brussels – OIB | 0.13 | 0.06 |  | 0 | 0 |
| European Personnel Selection Office – EPSO | 0.42 | 0.49 |  | 1.32 | 3.77 |
| **Total (%)** | **100** | **100** |  | **100** | **100** |

1. **The Social and occupational profile of applicants**

|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | **INITIAL STAGE**  **(%)** | |  | **CONFIRMATORY STAGE**  **(%)** | |
| **2017** | **2018** |  | **2017** | **2018** |
| Academic institution/Think tank | 21.06 | 10.62 |  | 8.22 | 2.83 |
| Company/Business association | 12.68 | 16.70 |  | 6.58 | 7.86 |
| Journalist | 5.18 | 10.07 |  | 7.24 | 15.09 |
| Law firm/self-employed attorney | 12.87 | 10.07 |  | 36.18 | 15.41 |
| MEP/assistant MEP | 0.99 | 0.95 |  | 3.95 | 5.03 |
| Non-governmental organization (NGO) | 7.37 | 6.76 |  | 13.16 | 17.30 |
| Member States under Regulation (EC) No 1049/2001 | 0.02 | 0.94 |  | 0 | 0.31 |
| (Sub)national authority | 0 | 1.72 |  | 0 | 0 |
| Not specified (Citizens) | 39.84 | 42.17 |  | 24.67 | 36.16 |
| **Total (%)** | **100** | **100** |  | **100** | **100** |

1. **The Geographical origin of applicants**

|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | **INITIAL STAGE**  **(%)** | |  | **CONFIRMATORY STAGE**  **(%)** | |
| **2017** | **2018** |  | **2017** | **2018** |
| **EU Member States** | | |  |  | |
| Belgium | 25.68 | 32.86 |  | 30.59 | 45.91 |
| Bulgaria | 0.51 | 0.81 |  | 0.33 | 0.63 |
| Czechia | 0.75 | 0.87 |  | 1.32 | 0.63 |
| Denmark | 2.14 | 1.45 |  | 0.99 | 1.26 |
| Germany | 11.96 | 9.17 |  | 14.14 | 8.49 |
| Estonia | 0.43 | 0.09 |  | 0 | 0 |
| Ireland | 1.95 | 2.24 |  | 1.97 | 2.52 |
| Greece | 1.41 | 0.91 |  | 2.96 | 0.63 |
| Spain | 5.85 | 5.89 |  | 8.22 | 2.52 |
| France | 6.60 | 6.93 |  | 5.92 | 4.40 |
| Croatia | 0.35 | 0.51 |  | 0 | 0.94 |
| Italy | 6.41 | 5.70 |  | 6.25 | 6.60 |
| Cyprus | 0.08 | 0.13 |  | 0.66 | 0 |
| Latvia | 0.13 | 0.27 |  | 0 | 0 |
| Lithuania | 0.21 | 0.33 |  | 0 | 0 |
| Luxembourg | 0.85 | 0.69 |  | 0 | 0 |
| Hungary | 0.90 | 0.88 |  | 1.64 | 0.94 |
| Malta | 0.22 | 0.26 |  | 0 | 0 |
| Netherlands | 6.84 | 6.52 |  | 3.29 | 8.49 |
| Austria | 1.07 | 1.30 |  | 2.30 | 1.57 |
| Poland | 1.69 | 2.40 |  | 3.62 | 1.89 |
| Portugal | 0.75 | 0.84 |  | 2.30 | 0.31 |
| Romania | 0.77 | 0.80 |  | 0.66 | 0.31 |
| Slovenia | 0.24 | 0.54 |  | 0 | 1.57 |
| Slovakia | 0.35 | 0.52 |  | 0.33 | 0.94 |
| Finland | 0.40 | 1.19 |  | 0 | 0.31 |
| Sweden | 0.91 | 1.33 |  | 0 | 0 |
| United Kingdom | 15.17 | 9.23 |  | 8.55 | 6.60 |
| **Third Countries** | | |  |  | |
| Non-EU European countries | 1.57 | 2.17 |  | 2.96 | 1.57 |
| Africa | 0.16 | 0.26 |  | 0 | 0.31 |
| Asia | 0.50 | 1.14 |  | 0 | 0 |
| Australia and New Zealand | 0.06 | 0.13 |  | 0 | 0 |
| North America | 2.65 | 1.52 |  | 0.66 | 0.31 |
| South America | 0.03 | 0.12 |  | 0 | 0 |
| Not specified[[5]](#footnote-5) | 0.40 | 0 |  | 0.33 | 0 |
| **Total (%)** | **100** | **100** |  | **100** | **100** |

1. **The type of replies given at the initial stage**

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | **2014** | | **2015** | | **2016** | | **2017** | | **2018** | |
| **No** | **%** | **No** | **%** | **No** | **%** | **No** | **%** | **No** | **%** |
| Full access granted | 4,096 | 72.77 | 4,003 | 68.79 | 3,622 | 60.93 | 3,201 | 61.78 | 3,633 | 59.39 |
| Partial access granted | 668 | 11.87 | 926 | 15.91 | 1,214 | 20.42 | 1,050 | 20.27 | 1,274 | 20.83 |
| Access refused | 866 | 15.36 | 890 | 15.29 | 1,109 | 18.65 | 930 | 17.95 | 969 | 15.84 |
| No documents held | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 241 | 3.94 |
| **Total** | **5,630** | **100** | **5,819** | **100** | **5,944** | **100** | **5,181** | **100** | **6117** | **100** |

1. **The type of replies given at the confirmatory stage**

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | **2014** | | **2015** | | **2016** | | **2017** | | **2018** | |
| **No** | **%** | **No** | **%** | **No** | **%** | **No** | **%** | **No** | **%** |
| Full revision –  Full access granted | 51 | 18.75 | 22 | 9.57 | 11 | 5.00 | 14 | 5.40 | 19 | 6.60 |
| Partial revision –  Partial access granted | 67 | 24.63 | 73 | 31.74 | 104 | 47.27 | 108 | 41.70 | 98 | 34.03 |
| Confirmation of initial reply –  Access refused | 154 | 56.62 | 135 | 58.70 | 105 | 47.73 | 137 | 52.90 | 120 | 41.67 |
| No documents held | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 51 | 17.70 |
| **Total** | **272** | **100** | **230** | **100** | **220** | **100** | **259** | **100** | **288** | **100** |

1. **The Refusal of access by exception applied**

|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Exceptions as set out in Article 4 of Regulation (EC) No 1049/2001** | **INITIAL STAGE (%)** | |  | **CONFIRMATORY STAGE (%)** | |
| **2017** | **2018** |  | **2017** | **2018** |
| 4.1(a), 1st indent – Protection of the public interest as regards public security | 5.40 | 8.79 |  | 0.33 | 5.60 |
| 4.1(a), 2nd indent – Protection of the public interest as regards defence and military matters | 0.15 | 0.34 |  | 0 | 0.43 |
| 4.1(a), 3rd indent – Protection of the public interest as regards international relations | 4.02 | 5.79 |  | 3.96 | 5.60 |
| 4.1(a), 4th indent – Protection of the public interest as regards the financial, monetary or economic policy of EU or a Member State | 0.96 | 0.79 |  | 4.62 | 2.16 |
| 4.1(b) – Protection of privacy and the integrity of the individual | 31.36 | 34.50 |  | 26.07 | 25.00 |
| 4.2, 1st indent – Protection of commercial interests | 16.77 | 15.41 |  | 13.20 | 12.50 |
| 4.2, 2nd indent – Protection of court proceedings and legal advice | 4.33 | 3.23 |  | 2.64 | 5.17 |
| 4.2, 3rd indent – Protection of the purpose of inspections, investigations and audits | 17.65 | 12.74 |  | 34.98 | 30.60 |
| 4.3, first subparagraph – Decision-making process where no decision has been taken yet | 16.31 | 15.11 |  | 12.21 | 10.78 |
| 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) | 2.11 | 1.95 |  | 1.98 | 2.16 |
| 4.4 and 4.5 – Refusal by a Member State or a third party[[6]](#footnote-6) | 0.96 | 1.35 |  | **/** | **/** |
| **Total (%)** | **100** | **100** |  | **100** | **100** |

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. [↑](#footnote-ref-1)
2. 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. [↑](#footnote-ref-2)
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. [↑](#footnote-ref-3)
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. [↑](#footnote-ref-4)
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). [↑](#footnote-ref-5)
6. This 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. [↑](#footnote-ref-6)