B9-0162/5 12.3.2024

Amendment 5 **Cristian Terhes** on behalf of the ECR Group

Motion for a resolution

B9-0162/2024

Committee on Civil Liberties, Justice and Home Affairs

The time the European Commission takes to deal with requests for public access to documents

Motion for a resolution Paragraph 4 a (new)

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

Recalls with great concern that, in 4a. 2021, following a request for public access to text messages between Commission President Ursula von der Leyen and the CEO of a pharmaceutical company regarding the Commission's purchase of COVID-19 vaccines, the Commission refused to acknowledge that such text messages fall within the definition of a 'document' under Regulation (EC) No 1049/2001; recalls that the registration of a document is a consequence of, not a prerequisite for, that document's existence; takes note of the Ombudsman's finding of maladministration by the Commission in this case; is concerned by the fact that the Commission has failed to follow up on the Ombudsman's recommendation following her inquiry to conduct another search for relevant text messages; calls on the Commission to conduct a full search without delay; expresses deep concern about the growing distance between citizens and the EU institutions, which this situation has worsened;

Or. en

PE758.046v01-00

Amendment 6
Cristian Terhes
on behalf of the ECR Group

Motion for a resolution

B9-0162/2024

Committee on Civil Liberties, Justice and Home Affairs

The time the European Commission takes to deal with requests for public access to documents

Motion for a resolution Paragraph 4 b (new)

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

4b. Notes with great concern that the Ombudsman has received many citizens' complaints about extreme delays in gaining access to requested documents; supports the Ombudsman's views that access delayed is effectively access denied and that administrative processes should be streamlined to ensure that citizens receive access to documents in a timely manner;

Or. en

Amendment 7
Cristian Terhes
on behalf of the ECR Group

Motion for a resolution

B9-0162/2024

Committee on Civil Liberties, Justice and Home Affairs

The time the European Commission takes to deal with requests for public access to documents

Motion for a resolution Citation 10 a (new)

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

having regard to the discharge
 procedure for the 2021 EU general budget
 Commission and executive agencies^{1a};

Or. en

^{1a} Texts Adopted, P9_TA(2023)0137.

Amendment 8
Cristian Terhes
on behalf of the ECR Group

Motion for a resolution

B9-0162/2024

Committee on Civil Liberties, Justice and Home Affairs

The time the European Commission takes to deal with requests for public access to documents

Motion for a resolution Paragraph 4 c (new)

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

Recalls that, according to the 4c. European Ombudsman, restrictions on access to documents, particularly legislative documents, should be exceptional and limited to what is absolutely necessary; recalls further that any decision denying public access to documents must be based on clearly and strictly defined legal exemptions, accompanied by a reasoned and specific justification, to enable citizens to understand the denial of access and make effective use of the legal remedies available; considers that a more proactive approach would help ensure effective transparency and prevent costly and burdensome legal disputes between citizens and institutions;

Or. en

Amendment 9
Cristian Terhes
on behalf of the ECR Group

Motion for a resolution

B9-0162/2024

Committee on Civil Liberties, Justice and Home Affairs

The time the European Commission takes to deal with requests for public access to documents

Motion for a resolution Paragraph 5 b (new)

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

5b. Condemns the lack of transparency from the Commission and pharmaceutical companies regarding the development, purchase and distribution of COVID-19 vaccines;

Or. en

Amendment 10 Cristian Terheş on behalf of the ECR Group

Motion for a resolution

B9-0162/2024

Committee on Civil Liberties, Justice and Home Affairs

The time the European Commission takes to deal with requests for public access to documents

Motion for a resolution Paragraph 4 d (new)

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

4d. Notes with concern that, to date, the Commission has not made available the unredacted versions of the contracts signed with the producers of the COVID-19 vaccines, not only to the public, but even to the Members of the European Parliament;

Or. en

Amendment 11 Cristian Terheş on behalf of the ECR Group

Motion for a resolution

B9-0162/2024

Committee on Civil Liberties, Justice and Home Affairs

The time the European Commission takes to deal with requests for public access to documents

Motion for a resolution Paragraph 4 d (new)

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

4d. Calls on the Commission to publish the unreducted versions of the purchase agreements for the COVID-19 vaccines immediately;

Or. en

Amendment 12 Cristian Terhes on behalf of the ECR Group

Motion for a resolution

B9-0162/2024

Committee on Civil Liberties, Justice and Home Affairs

The time the European Commission takes to deal with requests for public access to documents

Motion for a resolution Paragraph 6 a (new)

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

Recalls that, in its resolution on 6a. public access to documents – annual report for the years 2019-2021, Parliament underlined that the Commission had been deleting documents, including minutes of closed meetings, reports and internal documents; expresses its concern about the fact that this practice has led to the disappearance of important correspondence relevant to policy decisions; calls on the Commission to ensure the systematic registration and archiving of non-private correspondence related to key political decisions and spending;

Or. en

Amendment 13 Cristian Terheş on behalf of the ECR Group

Motion for a resolution

B9-0162/2024

Committee on Civil Liberties, Justice and Home Affairs

The time the European Commission takes to deal with requests for public access to documents

Motion for a resolution Paragraph 11 a (new)

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

11a. Notes that the European Public Prosecutor's Office has confirmed that there is an ongoing investigation into the acquisition of COVID-19 vaccines in the Union^{1a};

Or. en

^{1a} European Public Prosecutor's Office, 'Ongoing EPPO investigation into the acquisition of COVID-19 vaccines in the EU', 14 October 2022.

Amendment 14 Cristian Terheş on behalf of the ECR Group

Motion for a resolution

B9-0162/2024

Committee on Civil Liberties, Justice and Home Affairs

The time the European Commission takes to deal with requests for public access to documents

Motion for a resolution Paragraph 2 a (new)

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

2a. Welcomes the Ombudsman's practical recommendations on how to record text and instant messages sent or received by staff members in their professional capacity^{1a}; recognises that work-related text and instant messages are 'documents' within the meaning of Regulation (EC) No 1049/2001 on public access to documents and invites the other EU institutions, bodies, offices and agencies to recognise this, to follow the Ombudsman's recommendations accordingly and to make this follow-up public;

Or. en

^{1a} European Ombudsman, 'Closing note on the strategic initiative on how EU institutions, bodies, offices and agencies record text and instant messages sent/received by staff members in their professional capacity (SI/4/2021/MIG)', 13 July 2022.