

**Question for written answer E-001119/2023
to the Commission**

Rule 138

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Subject: Systemic delays in handling requests for access to documents of the EU institutions

On Tuesday 28 March 2023, the European Ombudsman, Emily O'Reilly, called on the European Commission to deal urgently with systemic delays in handling requests from European citizens for access to documents of the EU institutions. According to the Ombudsman, a fundamental reform of the procedure for documents access is required to ensure that the EU Transparency Regulation deadlines are met. Specifically, it appears that over 60% of decisions reviewing requests took more than 60 working days, despite a maximum time limit of 30 working days.

Unfortunately, such delays render the information obtained no longer useful for research or journalistic purposes, or actually prevent citizens from having their say at relevant times in decision making.

What measures does the Commission intend to take to speed up the procedure for handling access to documents requests?

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