



Brussels,
ECHO E.3

25. 07. 2019

By registered letter with acknowledgment of receipt

Mr Alexander Fanta
Schonhauser Allee 6-7

10119 Berlin

E-mail: a.fanta.wdshszvz44@fragdenstaat.de

Subject: Your applications for access to documents – Ref GestDem No 2019/4044

Dear Mr Fanta,

We refer to your e-mails dated 10 July 2019 in which you make a request for access to documents, registered on 12 July 2019 under the above-mentioned reference number.

Your request concerns documents related to meetings with Google. We identified the following documents which fall under the scope of your request:

1. Meeting report from a meeting of Commissioner Stylianides with representatives of Google on 6 July 2015 (ARES (2015) 2846599)
2. Email of 6 July 2015 containing two attachments (Invitation to a conference on Ebola Innovation and a side event; Commissioner Stylianides did not participate in the side event; ARES(2015) 2853419)
3. Email from Google as a follow up to the meeting on 6 July 2015 (ARES(2015) 2867570)
4. Letter of Commissioner Stylianides to a representative of Google on 18 May 2016 (ARES(2016)2303523)
5. Email from DG ECHO to representatives of Google of 16 November 2016 (ARES (2016)6439004)

Please note that some documents to which you request access contain personal data, in particular names of individuals and biometric data. Pursuant to Article 4(1)b of the Regulation (EC) 1049/2001, access to a document has to be refused if its disclosure would undermine the protection of privacy and the integrity of the individual, in particular in accordance with European Union legislation regarding the protection of personal data. The applicable legislation in this field is Regulation (EU) 2018/1725 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 23 October 2018 on the protection of natural persons with regard to the processing of personal data by the Union institutions, bodies, offices and agencies and on the free movement of such data, and repealing Regulation (EC) No 45/2001 and Decision No 1247/2002/EC ('Regulation 2018/1725').

Indeed, Article 3(1) of Regulation 2018/1725 provides that personal data ‘*means any information relating to an identified or identifiable natural person [...]*’. The Court of Justice has specified that any information, which by reason of its content, purpose or effect, is linked to a particular person is to be considered as personal data. Please note in this respect that the names, signatures, functions, telephone numbers and/or initials pertaining to staff members of an institution are to be considered personal data. In its judgment in Case C-28/08 P (Bavarian Lager), the Court of Justice ruled that when a request is made for access to documents containing personal data, the Data Protection Regulation becomes fully applicable.

Pursuant to Article 9(1)(b) of Regulation 2018/1725, ‘*personal data shall only be transmitted to recipients established in the Union other than Union institutions and bodies if ‘[t]he recipient establishes that it is necessary to have the data transmitted for a specific purpose in the public interest and the controller, where there is any reason to assume that the data subject’s legitimate interests might be prejudiced, establishes that it is proportionate to transmit the personal data for that specific purpose after having demonstrably weighed the various competing interests’*’.

Only if these conditions are fulfilled and the processing constitutes lawful processing in accordance with the requirements of Article 5 of Regulation 2018/1725, can the transmission of personal data occur.

According to Article 9(1)(b) of Regulation 2018/1725, the European Commission has to examine the further conditions for a lawful processing of personal data only if the first condition is fulfilled, namely if the recipient has established that it is necessary to have the data transmitted for a specific purpose in the public interest. It is only in this case that the European Commission has to examine whether there is a reason to assume that the data subject’s legitimate interests might be prejudiced and, in the affirmative, establish the proportionality of the transmission of the personal data for that specific purpose after having demonstrably weighed the various competing interests. In your request, you do not put forward any arguments to establish the necessity to have the data transmitted for a specific purpose in the public interest. Therefore, the European Commission does not have to examine whether there is a reason to assume that the data subject’s legitimate interests might be prejudiced.

Notwithstanding the above, please note that there are reasons to assume that the legitimate interests of the data subjects concerned would be prejudiced by disclosure of the personal data reflected in the documents, as there is a real and non-hypothetical risk that such public disclosure would harm their privacy.

Consequently, I conclude that, pursuant to Article 4(1)(b) of Regulation (EC) No 1049/2001, access cannot be granted to the personal data, 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 to the blue ink signatures on two of the documents, which are biometric data, there is a risk that their disclosure would prejudice the legitimate interests of the persons concerned.

Therefore, parts of the documents containing personal data were redacted as they fall under the exception of protection of privacy and integrity of an individual as foreseen by Article 4(1)b of the Regulation (EC) 1049/2001. As for attachments to document 2), the names have not been redacted as the events’ programs are publicly available on internet.

Furthermore, two of the documents stem from third parties (Google). With regard to these documents, the Commission consulted their author on the disclosure pursuant to Article 4(4) of Regulation 1049/2001. The author agreed to their disclosure.

Please find attached the redacted documents.

It should be noted that the documents above were already partially disclosed as subject of another request for access to documents.

Please note that documents 1 and 2 were received by the Commission from Google. They are disclosed for information only. They do not reflect the position of the Commission and cannot be quoted as such.

In accordance with Article 7(2) of Regulation 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 Secretary-General of the Commission at the following address:

European Commission
Secretary-General
Transparency, Document Management & Access to Documents (SG.C.1)
BERL 7/076
B-1049 Bruxelles

or by email to: sg-acc-doc@ec.europa.eu

Yours sincerely,



Monique PARIAT

Enclosures: 5 documents



EUROPEAN COMMISSION
DIRECTORATE-GENERAL HUMANITARIAN AID AND CIVIL PROTECTION - ECHO
ECHO A - Strategy, Policy and International Co-operation
A/3 - Policy and Implementation Frameworks

Brussels,

MEETING REPORT

Subject: Meeting of Commissioner Stylianides with [REDACTED]
[REDACTED] Google

Brussels, 06 July 2015

Participants: Themis Christophidou (HoC), Davinia Wood (CAB),
Zacharias Giakoumis (CAB), Philippos Savvides (CAB),
[REDACTED] (ECHO.A3), [REDACTED]
[REDACTED] Google, [REDACTED]
[REDACTED] Google.org

Summary

This was the first meeting between the Commissioner and Google. The aim of the meeting was to explore areas of common interest in the humanitarian aid and crisis management portfolios and to discuss areas of potential exchange or cooperation.

Follow-up

- ECHO/A4 to prepare a paper as a basis for a brainstorming with Google on possible education initiatives following the Oslo Summit on Education for Development.
- ECHO/B1 (associated with ECHO/A5 and ECHO/A3) to invite Google to visit the ERCC and present Google's crisis response tools.

1. Google's projects related to humanitarian aid

[REDACTED] underlined the strong interest of Google in contributing to the alleviation of suffering especially of refugees living in camps for a long period of time. Google could contribute through communication infrastructure that enables the creation of business and launched several pilot projects:

- Google established a high-speed internet wholesale system in Kampala / Uganda to enable citizens to do business around the world.
- The project 'Loon' aims at providing balloon-powered internet for everyone (<http://www.google.de/loon/>), especially for persons in rural and remote areas.
- Google acquired in 2014 the company Titan Aerospace that produces high-altitude drones which provide internet connection and take high-quality real-time images that could serve for disaster relief measures and deforestation monitoring.

- Google invests \$3 billion in a fleet of 12 satellites to expand internet access to unconnected regions of the world (the O3b or 'Other 3 Billion' project).
- Google invests in the creation of fibre networks in India to connect 250,000 and in the future up to 600,000 villages.

Google has also developed a lot of products that could be of use for disaster risk management and response. ██████ offered to present what Google can offer. The Commissioner agreed that the ERCC and Google should meet and explore common interests.

2. Education – creating jobs

The Commissioner informed ██████ that he sees a need for further discussion in order to develop initiatives that help vulnerable populations relating to education for displaced children and adults to counter radicalisation.

He mentioned the Oslo Summit on Education for Development where he was about to travel to and offered ██████ to touch base after this conference in order to brainstorm with Google on possible solutions to identified shortcomings.

██████ underlined the importance of job creation, hand in hand with education, for people who live in refugee camps to enable them to earn their own living. He promised to send the Commissioner information about Google's 'Jobs of the future' initiative that helps people to develop new skills for new jobs.

The Commissioner responded by making the link with the Commission's work on tackling the root causes of migration. Promoting growth in these regions is key, though it is not the whole solution.

3. Engaging the private sector

The Commissioner informed ██████ that he is personally dedicated to engaging the private sector even further in humanitarian aid and crisis management, given the increasing and simultaneous numbers of crises combined with donor fatigue. The Commissioner highlighted the need for establishing a framework for an effective partnership with the private sector.

4. Ebola

██████ also mentioned that the U.S. Department of Defence is drafting a report on the response to the Ebola crisis for President Obama and that the Commissioner's experience and perception of the response could usefully feed into that exercise.

████████████████████/ECHO.A3, tel. ██████

cc: Themis Christophidou (HoC), Kim Eling (DHoC), Davinia Wood (CAB), Zacharias Giakoumis (CAB), Mathieu Briens (CAB), Philippos Savvides (CAB); ECHO Management.

From: PAPADOPOULOU Androulla (CAB-STYLIANIDES) on behalf of STYLIANIDES Christos (CAB-STYLIANIDES)
To: CAB STYLIANIDES ARCHIVES
Subject: FW: Ebola Report at UN on July 10
Date: lundi 6 juillet 2015 16:26:00

From: [REDACTED]@google.com]
Sent: Monday, July 06, 2015 2:53 PM
To: STYLIANIDES Christos (CAB-STYLIANIDES); [REDACTED] (US)
Cc: [REDACTED]
Subject: Re: Ebola Report at UN on July 10

resending message - had an old address for [REDACTED]

On Mon, Jul 6, 2015 at 8:48 AM, [REDACTED]@google.com> wrote:
Commissioner Stylianides and [REDACTED],

I would like to introduce you to each other. Commissioner Stylianides has charge of the humanitarian and crisis management portfolio in the European Commission and [REDACTED] on the US response to Ebola.

There are two meetings at the UN on July 10 on this topic (see attached). [REDACTED], I cannot make it up to NYC on July 10 as I will still be in London. [REDACTED] has organized the parallel meeting whose agenda I have attached. I see that you, [REDACTED], will be at the International Ebola Recovery Conference and I will be participating in the parallel Ebola Innovation for Impact 2015 event by teleconference.

[REDACTED], I think you will be interested in the UN meetings and I hope you may make contact with Commissioner Stylianides while he is in NYC or perhaps at another convenient time.

[REDACTED]



7 July 2015

Dear Commissioner Stylianides,

Thank you so much for the time you dedicated to me and my colleagues during my brief visit to Brussels.

I think we have identified some fruitful areas of collaboration and I know that [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] are already in contact with your team to follow up on them. We would like very much to work out with you and your team how Google can provide support for important humanitarian issues such as migration and in the use of our tools for crisis response.

I've also already sent you an introduction to [REDACTED], who is responsible for preparing a report for President Obama on the US response to Ebola.

Best wishes for a productive visit to the UN this week. You will likely encounter several of acquaintances of mine with interests aligned with yours.

We look forward to working with you and your team on these important objectives.

Sincerely,

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

Google Research
1818 Library Street, Fourth Floor
Reston, VA 22102
USA

CHRISTOS STYLIANIDES
MEMBER OF THE EUROPEAN COMMISSION

B-1049 BRUSSELS

Brussels, **18 MAI 2016**
Ares(2016)

Dear [REDACTED]

I am following-up on various discussions our colleagues have had over the past few months given the fact that I would like to encourage the private sector to further engage in humanitarian aid and disaster management. I believe that companies such as Google can bring additional capabilities and innovation to our work.

The multiplication of large contemporary crises, combined with smaller and forgotten emergencies throughout the world, call for the European Commission and the whole humanitarian community to better coordinate and combine additional efforts to reach the people in need.

Considering that the use of new technologies in the humanitarian sector has already had a positive impact and has an enormous additional potential, together with the leading role of Google in this area, I believe that there is clear scope for increased cooperation between our organisations while respecting our respective roles and mandates.

Google.org recently updated me on your activities for the benefit of refugees that continue to arrive in Europe. It is a very positive step that you have been able to raise funds for the International Rescue Committee, the UNHCR as well as Save the Children and Médecins sans Frontières. All are very well known Commission partners.

As you may be aware, the Commission has recently adopted a new financial instrument aiming at providing emergency support within the EU, in order to address the humanitarian consequences of the refugee crisis. We will support the implementation of projects, starting in Greece, by humanitarian organisations, such as the ones you support. Identified needs are mainly related to shelter and sanitation, health and food as well as protection and emergency education.

I would like to sincerely congratulate you for the partnership you have built with Bibliothèques sans Frontières, helping the youngest refugees to get access to education. We very much share your concern. I have announced a €52 million humanitarian aid package specifically dedicated to educational projects for children in emergency situations in 2016.

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
1818 Library Street, Fourth Floor
Reston, VA 22102
USA

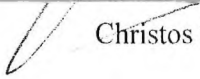
More generally, the Commission provides funding to a large number of implementing partners and we facilitate the coordination among thirty-four European civil protection authorities. I believe our role is to remain on the forefront of innovation in disaster management and crisis response, and we ensure that our partners are able to benefit from new ideas and tools to be more efficient in their activities.

For this reason, our colleagues identified possible areas of cooperation in risk assessment, mapping, preparedness, early warning/alerts and communication to the public. I have asked my collaborators to study concrete proposals and keep me informed.

I am convinced that the Commission-Google cooperation on humanitarian issues could trigger a multiplying factor that could greatly benefit the larger humanitarian community and most importantly people in need.

Yours sincerely,



 Christos Stylianides

From: [REDACTED] (ECHO)
To: [REDACTED]@google.com
Subject: RE: Phone call with Google.org

Dear [REDACTED]

Thank you again for completing the survey and the follow-up phone call.

We are also delighted about the confirmation that Vice President [REDACTED] will participate at the EiE Forum on 30 November. The private sector's contribution to education is key in providing quality education for future generations and we look forward to further discussions with you on this subject.

We have read the information on the Lebanon project with great interest and would be happy to hear more details about it as it progresses. Similarly, we would be very interested to learn more about and provide feedback on your other initiative as it is being rolled out.

Best wishes,

[REDACTED]
Head of Unit



European Commission

Directorate-General for European Civil Protection and Humanitarian Aid Operations (ECHO)
Unit [REDACTED], [REDACTED]

L-86 [REDACTED]
B-1049 Brussels/Belgium

Websites: [EN](#) - [FR](#) - [AR](#) | [Blog](#) | [YouTube](#) | [Flickr](#) | [Twitter](#) | [Facebook](#) | [Instagram](#)

From: [REDACTED] [[mailto:\[REDACTED\]@google.com](mailto:[REDACTED]@google.com)]
Sent: Friday, October 21, 2016 10:01 AM
To: WOOD Davinia (CAB-STYLIANIDES)
Cc: [REDACTED]
Subject: Re: Phone call with Google.org

Hi Davinia,

I just wanted to let you know that I have now submitted the answers to your survey on the role of private companies in humanitarian emergency response. I hope they are useful in your current discussion and work but please do feel free to reach out if you have any further questions I could help with. As discussed on the

phone, you'll find some more information [here](#) about our latest project to support out-of-school refugees education in Lebanon.

We are also currently working on a \$40M 2 year initiative to support organizations who are developing innovative solutions to improve access to education in emerging markets including out of school children in emergencies. I'd be happy to tell you more about it as we roll this out and would love to hear your feedback.

Have a nice weekend,

██████████

██████████ | Google.org | ██████████@google.com

This email and the information it contains are confidential and may be privileged. If you have received this email in error please notify me immediately. You should not copy it for any purpose, or disclose its contents to any other person. Internet communications are not secure and, therefore, Google does not accept legal responsibility for the contents of this message as it has been transmitted over a public network. If you suspect the message may have been intercepted or amended please call me.

On Wed, Oct 12, 2016 at 8:51 AM, ██████████@google.com> wrote:
Perfect! Thanks and have a great day.

On Wed, Oct 12, 2016 at 9:39 AM, <Davinia.WOOD@ec.europa.eu> wrote:
Dear ██████████,
Monday at 11 works well.
My number is [02-2951017](tel:02-2951017).
Looking fwd
Davinia

On 11 Oct 2016, at 19:12, ██████████@google.com> wrote:

Hi ██████████
I trust this email finds you well.
I would like to organize a phone call with you and ██████████ to see how we can help you on your projects.
Our availabilities are the following:

Monday 17/10 11am or 3pm
Tuesday 18/10 11am

Please let me know when it's possible for you.
Thank you.
Best regards,

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED] | Senior Policy Counsel | [REDACTED]@google.com | +32 [REDACTED] [REDACTED]

This email may be confidential or privileged. If you received this communication by mistake, please don't forward it to anyone else, please erase all copies and attachments, and please let me know that it went to the wrong person. Thanks.

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[REDACTED] | Senior Policy Counsel | [REDACTED]@google.com | + [REDACTED]

This email may be confidential or privileged. If you received this communication by mistake, please don't forward it to anyone else, please erase all copies and attachments, and please let me know that it went to the wrong person. Thanks.

