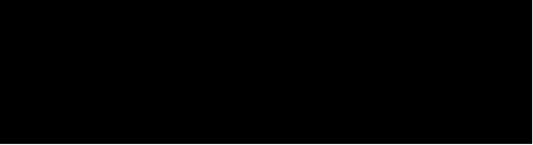




EUROPEAN COMMISSION
DIRECTORATE-GENERAL FOR MIGRATION AND HOME AFFAIRS

Directorate C – Migration & Asylum
C.4 – Migration Management Response

Brussels,



By e-mail with acknowledgment of receipt

Subject: Your application for access to documents 2023/6418

Dear 

We refer to your request for access to European Commission documents registered on 27 October 2023 under the above-mentioned reference number.

You request access to all presentations, speeches and remarks held at the 5th meeting of the European Contact Group on Search and Rescue on 2 October 2023, including the minutes of all exchanges of views.

We have identified the following documents that fall within the scope of the application:

1. Meeting Minutes of the 5th meeting of the European Contact Group on Search and Rescue - 2 October 2023 - [Publicly available here](#);
2. Presentation by the Italian Coast Guard “SAR Contact Group - Lampedusa island and critical aspects of SAR operations concerning the Tunisian migratory flow” - [Publicly available here](#);
3. Presentation by the Italian Coast Guard “ITCG CISE NODE - Sharing of information on situational awareness” - [Publicly available here](#);
4. Presentation by the Hellenic Ministry of Maritime Affairs and the Hellenic Coast Guard on the PROMENADE Project Overview - [Publicly available here](#);
5. Presentation by the European Union Agency for Fundamental Rights (FRA) “Fatalities at sea: a longstanding FRA concern” - [Publicly available here](#);
6. Presentation by the European Maritime Safety Agency on the EMSA Technical Study “Main safety aspects relevant for SAR operations at sea” - [Publicly available here](#);
7. Presentation by the Joint Rescue Coordination Center in Larnaca, Cyprus - [Publicly available here](#);
8. Presentation by the Frontex Situation Centre - [Publicly available here](#).

All the identified documents are already available online in the Register of Commission Expert Groups and Other Similar Entities, under the section “meetings” of the European Contact Group on Search and Rescue (E03752), as per Rules of Procedure of the Group.

I would also like to underline that, according to the terms of reference of the European Contact Group on Search and Rescue ⁽¹⁾, in accordance with the rule on transparency of the Commission’s Expert Groups, the Group shall be registered in the Register of Expert Groups and all relevant documents, including agendas and minutes, shall be made available in the Register. Exceptions to publication are only foreseen where it is considered that disclosure of a document would undermine the protection of a public or private interest as defined in Article 4 of Regulation (EC) No 1049/2001. Therefore, after each meeting of the SAR Contact Group, allowing time for the minutes to be drawn up and for Member States and third parties to be consulted on the disclosure of presentations or documents arising from the meeting, all documents relating to the meeting will be uploaded to the Register. [Here](#) is the link to the European Contact Group on Search and Rescue (E03752).

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Finally, I note that your request has been submitted outside the EASE portal. Therefore, I would appreciate, if you could acknowledge receipt of the present letter by sending an email to HOME-ACCESS-DOCUMENTS@ec.europa.eu.

Yours faithfully,

Simona ARDOVINO
Head of Unit

(1) [Terms of Reference SAR Contact Group](#)