

## **The European Commission's refusal to make public two invoices for expenses relating to an official visit to Buenos Aires by the then President of the Commission**

**Case 2165/2019/MIG - Opened on 20/12/2019 - Decision on 04/11/2020 - Institutions concerned** European Commission ( Suggestion(s) accepted by the institution ) | European Commission ( Solution achieved ) |

The complainant, an NGO, sought public access to documents detailing the expenses relating to an official visit by the President of the European Commission to Buenos Aires to attend the G20 summit. The Commission refused the request on data protection grounds, invoking an exception in the EU's rules on public access to documents. In the context of the inquiry, the Ombudsman proposed that the Commission disclose information on the nature of the expenses in question. She also suggested that such information be proactively disclosed in future, under certain circumstances. The Commission accepted the Ombudsman's proposal for a solution, and agreed proactively to disclose information on the nature of such costs in future. The Ombudsman welcomed the Commission's positive response, and closed the inquiry finding that the complaint has been resolved.