



Decision of the European Ombudsman in the case 981/2021//DL on how the European Commission replied to a request for information concerning the digital COVID-19 certificates

Decision

Case 981/2021/DL - **Opened on** 11/06/2021 - **Decision on** 11/06/2021 - **Institution concerned** European Commission (No maladministration found) |

Dear Ms X,

On 18 May 2021, you submitted a complaint to the European Ombudsman about how the European Commission replied to your request for information concerning the digital COVID-19 certificates. You consider that the Commission's answer to you was vague. You also enclosed with your complaint correspondence between you and the European Centre for Disease Prevention and Control (ECDC).

Based on the information you provided to us, the Ombudsman finds no maladministration by the Commission in how it replied to your information request.

[1]

The reason for this finding is that the Commission has provided you with reasonable and exhaustive replies. The Commission said that it is responsible for establishing a digital infrastructure for the digital COVID-19 certificates. However, the Certificates will be issued by the EU Member States, based on parameters agreed by all of them. As the negotiations were still ongoing, the Commission could not give more details. The Commission said that the conditions of entry into Czechia, which your questions concerned, are fully within the competence of that country.

The ECDC also provided you with relevant information on its mandate and the Commission's role regarding the digital COVID-19 certificate.

If you wish to obtain more information about the conditions for obtaining a digital COVID-19 certificate from Czechia if you are a Czech national living abroad, I suggest you contact the relevant Czech authorities or the Czech Embassy in the United States of America, where you live.

I appreciate that this decision might be disappointing to you. I do hope that the above information and explanations are helpful.



Yours sincerely,

Tina Nilsson Head of the Case-handling Unit

Strasbourg, 11/06/2021

[1] Full information on the procedure and rights pertaining to complaints can be found at <https://www.ombudsman.europa.eu/en/document/70707>