



The European Parliament's refusal to give public access to documents related to the 'EU-China Friendship Group'

Case 1542/2021/SF - **Opened on** 06/09/2021 - **Institution concerned** European Parliament
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The complainant sought public access from the European Parliament to documents concerning the 'EU-China Friendship Group', an informal group of MEPs that has since been suspended. The Parliament identified four documents as falling under the request, but refused to disclose these documents. In doing so, it invoked an exception under the EU's rules on public access to documents, arguing that disclosing the documents could undermine an ongoing investigation.

The Ombudsman opened an inquiry and sought to review the documents in question.