

Query Q2/2021/OAM by the Catalan Ombudsman concerning the issuing of EU Digital COVID Certificates for those who have recovered from COVID-19 infections confirmed by antigen tests

Case Q2/2021/OAM - Opened on 03/09/2021 - Decision on 18/11/2021

The European Ombudsman received a query from the Catalan Ombudsman concerning the EU Digital COVID Certificate. The Catalan Ombudsman raised concerns that the Certificate is currently not available to those who have recovered from a COVID-19 infection if the infection was confirmed by a rapid antigen test, rather than a nucleic acid amplification test, such as PCR tests.

To this end, the Ombudsman wrote to the European Commission [Link] to seek clarification on the current legal situation, as to whether proof of infection by antigen test may be accepted, and whether this could evolve. The Commission replied [Link] to the Ombudsman, clarifying the matter, and the Ombudsman closed the inquiry.