



## The European Commission's refusal to give full public access to documents related to the German plan under the Recovery and Resilience Facility (RRF)

**Case 137/2023/SF - Opened on 27/01/2023 - Decision on 27/10/2023 - Institution concerned** European Commission ( Solution achieved ) |

The complainant asked the European Commission to grant public access to documents showing the evaluation process of the German draft plan and the plan officially submitted by Germany under the EU's Recovery and Resilience Facility (RRF). The Commission identified 69 documents as falling within the scope of the complainant's request. It refused access to six documents in their entirety and granted access to parts of 63 documents. It argued that the redacted information in those 63 documents either comprised personal data or did not fall within the scope of the request.

Based on the inspection of documents by the inquiry team, the Ombudsman took the view that wider access should have been granted to several documents and made a solution proposal to this end. The Commission accepted the Ombudsman's proposal for a solution and the Ombudsman therefore [closed the case \[Link\]](#). While the Ombudsman welcomed the Commission's positive reply to her solution proposal, she expressed concern about the time the Commission took to provide public access to the requested documents.