

## **The Commission's refusal to grant access to the award evaluation forms concerning Member States' applications for co-funding by the Commission for the setting up of Passenger Information Units for the processing of passenger name record (PNR) data**

Case opened

**Case** 1959/2014/MDC - **Opened on** 13/01/2015 - **Recommendation on** 20/12/2016 -

**Decision on** 13/07/2017 - **Institution concerned** European Commission ( Maladministration found ) |

### **Allegation(s)**

The Commission wrongly denied access to the award evaluation forms.

*Supporting arguments:*

- 1) The Commission's arguments for withholding the documents from public scrutiny are not convincing.
- 2) There is public interest in knowing how the Commission assessed Member States' applications. The way the Commission evaluated the proposals has directly influenced policy making in the Member States with a potentially serious impact on the fundamental rights and privacy of citizens.

### **Claim(s)**

The Commission should grant access to the award evaluation forms.



The Ombudsman invites the Commission to submit an opinion by 31 December 2015.