



**COUNCIL OF
THE EUROPEAN UNION**

Brussels, 13 January 2012

5017/12

**INF 1
API 1
JUR 1**

COVER NOTE

from : General Secretariat of the Council
to : Working Party on Information
Subject : Public access to documents
- Confirmatory application No 01/c/01/12

Delegations will find attached:

- request for access to documents sent to the General Secretariat of the Council on 27 October 2011 and registered on the same day (Annex 1)
- reply from the General Secretariat of the Council dated 12 December 2011 (Annex 2).
- confirmatory application dated 30 December 2011 and registered on 3 January 2012(Annex 3).

[E-mail dated 27 October 2011 - 15:18]

Initial request

Dear European Council,

Under the right of access to documents in the EU treaties, as developed in Regulation 1049/2001, I am requesting the following documents:

- all minutes (and other notes) of discussions with (representatives of) the Institute of International Finance before, during and after the Euro Summits and European Council summits of July 21st, October 23rd and October 26st 2011.
- correspondence with (representatives of) the Institute of International Finance before, during and after the Euro Summits and European Council summits of July 21st, October 23rd and October 26st 2011.
- documents submitted by (representatives of) the Institute of International Finance before, during and after the Euro Summits and European Council summits of July 21st, October 23rd and October 26st 2011.

Yours faithfully,

DELETED



**COUNCIL OF
THE EUROPEAN UNION**

GENERAL SECRETARIAT

*Directorate-General F
Press
Communication
Transparency*

*- Access to Documents/
Legislative transparency*

RUE DE LA LOI, 175
B – 1048 BRUSSELS
Tel: (32 2) 281 67 10
Fax: (32 2) 281 63 61
E-MAIL:

access@consilium.europa.eu

Dear **DELETED**,

Thank you for your request of 27 October 2011 for access to the following documents:

- all minutes (and other notes) of discussions with (representatives of) the Institute of International Finance before, during and after the Euro Summits and European Council summits of July 21st, October 23rd and October 26th 2011;
- correspondence with (representatives of) the Institute of International Finance before, during and after the Euro Summits and European Council summits of July 21st, October 23rd and October 26th 2011;
- documents submitted by (representatives of) the Institute of International Finance before, during and after the Euro Summits and European Council summits of July 21st, October 23rd and October 26th 2011.

The General Secretariat of the Council has examined your request carefully on the basis of Regulation 1049/2001¹ on public access to documents and of the Council's and European Council's Rules of Procedure². On 21 November 2011, the time-limit for replying to your application was extended by 15 working days. This leads us to the following observations:

The contacts which took place with representatives of the Institute of International Finance (IIF) before, during and after the above-mentioned summits, consisted of discussions between one Member State, namely Greece and private investors holding Greek bonds, to the degree that they are represented by the IIF.

¹ Regulation (EC) No 1049/2001 of the European Parliament and of the Council regarding public access to European Parliament, Council and Commission documents (Official Journal L 145, 31.5.2001, p. 43).

² Annex II to the Council's Rules of Procedure (Council Decision No 2009/937/EU, OJ L 325, 11.12.2009, p. 35) and Article 10 of the European Council's Rules of Procedure (European Council Decision No 2009/882/EU, OJ L 315, 2.12.2009, p. 51).

Brussels, 12 December 2011

DELETED

e-mail:

DELETED

Ref. 11/1816-mj-mr/ank

These discussions between a euro area Member State and the IIF were attended by Troika representatives (i.e., from the European Commission, the European Central Bank and the International Monetary Fund) and by Mr Vittorio Grilli¹.

The results of the discussions which took place with the IIF before the 21 July, the 23 October and the 26 October 2011 Euro Summits, were conveyed orally by Mr Grilli to the related Euro Summits. You may be aware that the IIF made statements relating to these discussions and published them on the IIF website².

In this context, and notably taking into account a voluntary Private Sector Involvement, the Heads of State or Government (HoSG) of euro area Member States notably agreed (on 21 July³ and on 26 October 2011 respectively⁴) on a package of measures aimed at improving the debt sustainability and refinancing profile of Greece.

Finally, the European Council meeting on 23 October 2011 agreed on the need for coherence of the activities of the euro area and the European Union. In this regard, the President of the Euro Summit would keep the non euro area Member States closely informed on the preparation and outcome of the Euro Summits⁵.

Given the process described above, the General Secretariat of the Council, the Council and the European Council do not hold documents corresponding to your request other than the texts referred to above, such as the statement by the HoSG of the euro area and the EU institutions and the conclusions of the European Council, which are of course already in the public domain.

Yours sincerely,

For the General Secretariat

¹ Professor Vittorio Grilli was the Director General of the Treasury in the Italian Ministry of Economy and Finance. He was also the President of the Economic and Financial Committee. On 28 November 2011 he was appointed Deputy Economy and Finance Minister in the Italian government.

² <http://www.iif.com/>

³ See http://www.consilium.europa.eu/uedocs/cms_data/docs/pressdata/en/ec/123978.pdf

⁴ See http://www.consilium.europa.eu/uedocs/cms_data/docs/pressdata/en/ec/125644.pdf

⁵ See http://www.consilium.europa.eu/uedocs/cms_data/docs/pressdata/en/ec/125496.pdf
See also statement of EU Heads of State or Government at their informal meeting on 26 October 2011: http://www.consilium.europa.eu/uedocs/cms_data/docs/pressdata/en/ec/125621.pdf

[Confirmatory application sent by e-mail on 30 December 2011 - 10:38]

Dear European Council,

Please pass this on to the person who conducts Freedom of Information reviews.

I am writing to request an internal review of European Council's handling of my FOI request 'the role of the Institute of International Finance in the eurocrisis summits in July and October'.

I would like to complain about the claim made in the response from Mr. Jacob Thomsen (letter dated 12 December) that the contacts with the IIF before, during and after the above-mentioned summits" consisted of discussions between one Member State, namely Greece" and the IIF. There is ample evidence that the discussions involved not only Greece, but the European Council more generally, including Ms. Merkel and Mr. Sarkozy. As an example allow me to refer to the article in today's Wall Street Journal "Deepening Crisis Over Euro Pits Leader Against Leader" (<http://online.wsj.com/article/SB10001424052970203391104577124480046463576.html>)

I would therefore like to request a review of the response and a new assessment of my request for access to documents.

A full history of my FOI request and all correspondence is available on the Internet at this address:

DELETED

Yours faithfully,

DELETED
