



**COUNCIL OF
THE EUROPEAN UNION**

Brussels, 25 September 2012

14194/12

**INF 146
API 93**

NOTE

from:	Presidency
to	Working Party on Information
Subject:	Questionnaire on public access to documents and / or information in Member States

The objective of this questionnaire is to provide the Presidency with a perspective of rules and best practices on core issues relating to public access to documents and / or information in Member States. The Presidency will process the responses and feed appropriately the debate on the recast of Regulation (EC) No 1049/2001.

Please take into consideration that your responses should provide, wherever possible, a synopsis of the relevant Constitutional provisions / legislation as well as other practices in your country.



Cyprus Presidency Questionnaire for the Working Party on Information

1. Definition of document

- a) Does the national legislation of your country include a definition of “document”? If not, how it is defined the object matter of the law?
- b) Please provide the definition of “document” in you relevant national legislation on public access to documents and/or information. Which are the main elements of this definition?
- c) Is public access to preliminary versions of documents / preparatory work documents / documents based on internal discussions or to similar information permitted in your country? Please describe how this issue is tackled in your country.

2. Special protection of documents of special character

- (a) Does the national legislation of your country provide protection for certain types of documents? If so, for which types of documents?
- (b) Please describe how requests concerning certain types of documents that may have a special status and/or are considered special are treated (this may include, but is not limited to, requests for legal advice given from or to government bodies and other administrative authorities, competition-related documents, or documents related to court proceedings).

3. Requests for public access to a very large number of documents

Please describe how the competent authorities in your country address requests for public access to a very long document or to a very large number of documents (your response could include the issue of human resources involved in this process etc).
