From:

**To:** European Data Protection Supervisor

<EDPS@edps.europa.eu>

**Sent at:** 30/11/23 21:02:38

**Subject:** Re: Our ref.: 2022-1189 - D(2023) 3373 - Request for

review of EDPS decision of 16 June 2023

Dear EDPS,

Please find attached my request for review.

Thanks for your time and consideration

Best regards



El mar, 31 oct 2023 a las 11:19, European Data Protection Supervisor (<EDPS@edps.europa.eu>) escribió:

Dear Sir,

Please find attached a letter and its annex signed electronically by Mr Wojciech Rafał WIEWIÓROWSKI for the above mentioned subject.

Kind regards,

### **EDPS Secretariat**



<u>| Tel. (+32) 228 31900</u> | Fax +32(0)22831950 | → Email <u>edps@edps.europa.eu</u>

European Data Protection Supervisor Postal address: Rue Wiertz 60, B-1047 Brussels Office address: Rue Montoyer 30, B-1000 Brussels

🗾 @EU\_EDPS 🔎 www.edps.europa.eu

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TO: EDPS@edps.europa.eu

To whom might it concern,

Thanks for your time replying my complaint.

I have just received EPSO's logs at the very end of the deadline breaching Article 14(3) "[...]The controller shall provide information on action taken on a request under Articles 17 to 24 to the data subject without undue delay[...]" As I requested the logs more that 1 year ago.

Long story short they are useless and don't allow me to verify EPSO/EUIPO's processing activities lawfulness as they are basically dates with no context and the purpose is not there (as it should as per Pannki S, Case C-579/21).

# ON THE SUBJECT

Regarding EPSO's reply

As regards your personal data processed for the purposes of the selection procedures EUIPO/CAST/1/16-6, OIHM/CAST/10/2014 FG III, and EPSO/TA/IT/06 IT, the retention periods had already expired at the time of your initial application of 18 June 2022. EPSO informed you of this in its reply of 5 August 2022, with regard to each of the three abovementioned procedures: "The processing period of your personal data within the framework of this selection procedure, including the retention period, ended."

It follows that for these three procedures EPSO no longer processes any of your personal data. Consequently, I hereby confirm that for these procedures no log data exist, therefore EPSO is not in a position to communicate such data to you.

EUIPO and/or EPSO deleted my profile after my complaints.

I recorded (**Annex A.02** with a snipped version of the videos embedded) my EPSO profile status using a third party witness before and after my complaints. The selection procedures were there before my complaint and were deleted unlawfully after my complaint.

EPSO should be ready to restore my data and my logs or would be breaching Article 33(1)(1a)(1b) (1c)(1d)(2)(3):

### Article 33

### Security of processing

- 1. Taking into account the state of the art, the costs of implementation and the nature, scope, context and purposes of processing as well as the risks of varying likelihood and severity for the rights and freedoms of natural persons, the controller and the processor shall implement appropriate technical and organisational measures to ensure a level of security appropriate to the risk, including, inter alia, as appropriate:
- (a) the pseudonymisation and encryption of personal data;
- (b) the ability to ensure the ongoing confidentiality, integrity, availability and resilience of processing systems and services;
- (c) the ability to restore the availability and access to personal data in a timely manner in the event of a physical or technical incident;
- (d) a process for regularly testing, assessing and evaluating the effectiveness of technical and organisational measures for ensuring the security of the processing.
- 2. In assessing the appropriate level of security account shall be taken in particular of the risks that are presented by processing, in particular from accidental or unlawful destruction, loss, alteration, unauthorised disclosure of, or access to personal data transmitted, stored or otherwise processed.
- 3. The controller and processor shall take steps to ensure that any natural person acting under the authority of the controller or the processor who has access to personal data does not process them except on instructions from the controller, unless he or she is required to do so by Union law.

By an email thread between 23/01/2023 and 14/06/2023 (**Annex A.01**), I tried to follow up the complaint with the EDPS providing more information, background and some recitals from EDPB's guideline on right of access and already informed EDPS that EUIPO/EPSO deleted unlawfully my data **advancing factual evidence** of EUIPO's/EPSO's wrongdoings:

"[...]EUIPO nor the European Commission have ever provided me with a single line of logs and even they have deleted the data which I requested the logs about. By doing so they have prevented me to verify EUIPO and European Commission lawfulness of their processing[...]" (emphasis added)

It seems that EUIPO and the EC have inspired recital 39 of EDPB's Guideline on right of access (this comment was already on my follow up emails page 5, **Annex A.01**)

39. Furthermore, the controller shall not deliberately escape the obligation to provide the requested personal data by erasing or modifying personal data in response to a request for access (see 2.3.2). If, in the course of processing the access request, the controller discovers inaccurate data or unlawful processing, the controller has to assess the state of the processing and to inform the data subject accordingly before complying with its other obligations. In its own interest, to avoid the need of further communication on this as well as to be compliant with the transparency principle, the controller should add information about the subsequent rectifications or deletions.

**Example 6:** On the occasion of replying to an access request a controller realises, that an application of the data subject for a vacancy in the company of the controller has been stored beyond the retention period. In this case the controller cannot delete first and then reply to the data subject that no data (concerning the application) is processed. It has to give access first and delete the data afterwards. In order to prevent a subsequent request for erasure it would then be recommended to add information about the fact and time of the deletion.

In order to comply with the principle of transparency, controllers should infom the data subject as of the specific point in time of the processing to which the response of the controller refers. In some cases, for example in contexts of frequent communication activities, additional processing or modifications of the data may occur between this time reference point, at which the processing was assessed, and the response of the controller. If the controller is aware of such changes, it is recommended to include information about those changes as well as information about additional processing necessary to reply to the request.

It is also worthy noting that AG Campos Sánchez-Bordona stated in paras 64-65 of his Opinion on case C-579/21 as most probably a dishonest employee deleted my data:

"[...] 64. However, there may be situations in which an employee does not comply with the procedures established by the controller and, on his or her own initiative, accesses the data of customers or other employees in an unlawful manner. In such a case, the dishonest employee would not have acted for and on behalf of the controller.

65. To that extent, the dishonest employee could be described as a 'recipient' to whom personal data of the data subject was 'communicated' (figuratively speaking). (25) either by his or her own hand and thus unlawfully, or even as a data controller in his or her own right (26)[...]".

# **REQUEST**

Under Articles 57, 58 I Request to the EDPS the following:

- 1. To start an investigation due EPSO's blatant EUDPR non compliance.
- 2. To order EPSO to restore all the unlawfully deleted data.
- 3. To order EPSO set all my data as read only and do not delete nor modify again my data.
- 4. To treat this as a data breach and handle this accordingly.
- 5. To provide me the name of the dishonest employee that unlawfully deleted my data as due his/her unlawful behaviour has became a recipient (Case C-579/21)
- 6. To report the dishonest employee to OLAF.

# **ANNEXES**

A.01.All\_Emails\_Correo de elsotanillo.net - Our ref. 2022-1189 - D(2023) 0200.pdf

A.02.ProfOfCASTManipulationWithVideosEmbedded-Annex.pdf

Table 1: Applications on the applicant's EPSO profile before the 'purge'

Application number	Description	Primary Data Controller	Status
4220689	EUIPO/CAST/1/16 - 6 – INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY/PROJECT MANAGEMENT SPECIALIST - Function Group IV (FG IV)	EUIPO	ERASED
3921833	OHIM/CAST/10/2014 FG III - FG III	EUIPO	ERASED
700311	EPSO/CAST27/5/07 CAST27 (RELEX) - FG III	EC	OK
539001	EPSO/TA/IT/06 IT Temporary Agents IT	EC	ERASED

The three applications now marked "ERASED" existed on the applicant's EPSO profile when he exercised his right of access and other rights through a DSR. The following is a screenshot of the applicant's EPSO profile taken on 2022 (before the 'purge') where his EUIPO/CAST/1/16 can be seen as the last application on his EPSO profile:

Applicant No 4220689 - EUIPO/CAST/1/16 - 6 INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY/PROJECT MANAGEMENT SPECIALIST - Function Group IV (FG IV)

You validated your application

Total Nr of messages: 1

The following is the same screenshot taken in 2023 (after the 'purge') where a very old application from 2007 EPSO/CAST27/5/07 can be seen as the last application, as all newer applications were 'purged' after his DSR.

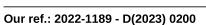
Applicant No 700311 - EPSO/CAST27/5/07 CAST27 (RELEX) - FG III → Access CAST27 RELEX CV

The applicant has recorded using a third party digital witness his EPSO profile before and after the 'purge' and has attached two snips on this PDF.

The files (a snipped version) are named **AfterThePurge.mp4** and **BeforeThePurge.mp4** are embedded on this document and can be opened from the PDF file.

The authenticity and the timestamp of the videos can be checked by the Court as they (the full version) were recorded via a third party digital witness. The applicant can provide the full version and the methods to authenticate both videos.

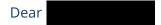




8 mensajes

SUPERVISION <supervision@edps.europa.eu>

23 de enero de 2023, 14:11



Thank you for your e-mail and for the reference to Case C-154/21.

We are indeed analysing your Case 2022-1189 before the EDPS and we will get back to you soon.

Thank you for your understanding.

Kind regards,

## SUPERVISION & ENFORCEMENT UNIT



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From:

Sent: 20 January 2023 22:41

To: European Data Protection Supervisor <EDPS@edps.europa.eu>

**Subject:** Re: Our ref.: 2022-1189 - D(2022) 2746

Dear Supervision

I would like to do point in Case C-154/21

https://curia.europa.eu/juris/document/document.jsf?text=&docid=269146&pageIndex=0&doclang=EN&mode=req&dir=&occ=first&part=1&cid=66061

39 Thus, in order to ensure the effectiveness of all of the rights referred to in the preceding paragraph of the present judgment, the data subject must have, in particular, the right to be informed of the identity of the specific recipients where his or her personal data have already been disclosed.

I know that the law that applies to my complaint is the EUDPR and not the GDPR but they are quite similar regarding the Principles and I am not even requesting the identity. The category (EUIPO Personnel could be a category) would be enough.

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BTW any news on this	one?
Thanks for your time	
Best regards	
El vie, 16 dic 2022 a la	as 14:18, escribió:
Dear SUPERVISIO	N,
Please relate this re	eference with my complaint 2022-1189 - D(2022) 2746 as both are related with EUIPO lack of EUDPR compliance.
Thanks for your time	e e
Best regards	
El lun, 21 nov 2022	a las 10:08,
Dear EDPS,	
Being more spec	ifically about what I need:
	when my personal data was accessed by EUIPO/OHIM's personnel (OHIM is former EUIPO's name). Knowing the time window is essential for my letter before action
those dooesses is	s essential for my fetter service addon
Thanks for your t	ime
Best regards	
	22 a las 9:18, SUPERVISION ( <supervision@edps.europa.eu>) escribió:</supervision@edps.europa.eu>
Dear	
The EDPS ack	knowledges receipt of your complaint submitted through the online complaint form on 16 November 2022.
We will analys	se your complaint and keep you informed of further developments.
	een given the case number 2022-1189. Please refer to this number and use edps@edps.europa.eu when corresponding with the

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EDPS.

Yours sincerely,



### SUPERVISION & ENFORCEMENT UNIT

| Tel. (+32) 228 31900 | Fax +32(0)22831950 | Email Supervision@edps.europa.eu

European Data Protection Supervisor
Postal address: Rue Wiertz 60, B-1047 Brussels

Office address: Rue Montoyer 30, B-1000 Brussels

@EU\_EDPS www.edps.europa.eu

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### **Data Protection Notice**

According to Articles 15 and 16 of Regulation (EU) 2018/1725 on the protection of natural persons with regard to the processing of personal data by the Union institutions, bodies, offices and agencies and on the free movement of such data, please be informed that your personal data will be processed by the EDPS, where proportionate and necessary, for the purpose of investigating your complaint. The legal basis for this processing operation is Article 57(1)(e) of Regulation (EU) 2018/1725. The data processed will have been submitted by you, or from other sources during the inquiry of your complaint, and this may include sensitive data. Your data will only be transferred to other EU institutions and bodies or to third parties when it is necessary to ensure the appropriate investigation or follow up of your complaint. Your data will be stored by the EDPS in electronic and paper files for up to ten years (five years for prima facie inadmissible complaints) after the case closure, unless legal proceedings require us to keep them for a longer period. You have the right to access your personal data held by the EDPS and to obtain the rectification thereof, if necessary. Any such request should be addressed to the EDPS at edps@edps.europa.eu. Your data might be transferred to other EU institutions and bodies or to any third parties only where necessary to ensure the appropriate handling of your request. You may also contact the data protection officer of the EDPS (EDPS-DPO@edps.europa.eu), if you have any remarks or complaints regarding the way we process your personal data. You can find the full version of our data protection notice on complaint handling at: https://edps.europa.eu/data-protection/our-role-supervisor/complaints-handling-data-protection-notice en.

Para: SUPERVISION <supervision@edps.europa.eu>

18 de marzo de 2023, 13:43

Dear SUPERVISION,

Any news on this one? I started my quest on 2021 of June and lodged my first complaint with you in 16//11/2021

Thanks for your time.

Best regards



[El texto citado está oculto]

23 de marzo de 2023 17:24

Para: SUPERVISION <supervision@edps.europa.eu>, edps@edps.europa.eu

Dear SUPERVISION,

Any news on this one? I started my quest on 2021 of June and lodged my first complaint with you in 16//11/2021

Thanks for your time.



[El texto citado está oculto]

31 de marzo de 2023, 22:06

Para: SUPERVISION < supervision@edps.europa.eu>, edps@edps.europa.eu

### Dear EDPS

Find EC's DPO reply

# EC-DPO-INTERNAL@ec.europa.eu para mi. EC-DPO-INTERNAL@ec.europa.eu > Dea I refer to your email of 18 March 2023 (reference number Ares(2!23)2023676). First, I would like to sum up your previous exchanges with the Commission DPO office. On 18 June 2022, you requested EPSO to provide you access to your personal data. EPSO replied to you on 5 August 2022 (Ares(2023)58696112). Alterwards, on 10 August 2023 you requested the DPO office to examine EPSO's reply, since you found it unsatisfactory. You also asked the DPO office to investigate with EPSO when your personal data had been accessed by the EUIPOIOHIM's personnel. The Commission DPO replied by you on 15 November 2022 (Ares(2022)7874855). You contacted the DPO office again on 20 November 2022 on the same matter and received a reply on 7 February 2023 (Ares(2023)881648). In both replies, it was explained to you that the matter at stake falls outside the remt of the Commission DPO and that you were advised to contact the EUIPO DPO. Moreover, billowing your email of 15 February 2023 (Ares(2023)8024536) and previous exchanges, my office contacted the EUIPO DPO and it was established that the EUIPO (and not the Commission) is competent to reply to your request. It is my understanding that the DPO of EUIPO replied to you and informed you several times that they fall outside of the remit of the Commission, As coordinating and hadiling of replies to those multiple requests concerns exactly the same as your previous requests for which the Commission DPO has informed you several times that they fall outside of the remit of the Commission, As coordinating and hadiling of replies to those multiple requests examine subject are manifestly unfounded and excessive, in particular because of their repetitive character, the controler may refuse to act on the request within the same scope will be disregarded. Prinary, I draw your attention to the means of redress available against this decision. You have the right to lodge a complaint with the European Data Protection Super

It seems that I don't have any right over my data.

EUIPO's DPO replied me to contact EPSO on 22/7/2022

That EUIPO provides the data recipients (and also the dates) that accessed my
personal data in all EUIPO's systems (Sharedox, HR's Allegro database, HR's SAP
SuccessFactors, etc.) and EPSO (e.g.: Cast) as per Article 17

As mentioned under question 2 above, the recipients of the personal data for each specific case are included in the Privacy Statements referred to in **Annex 1**. Each staff member has access to information and personal data on the need-to-know basis and in their professional capacity. Personal data of individuals is protected under the Regulation (EU) 2018/1725 also when staff members act in performance of their duties.

This is the only information we can provide you with as regards the recipients of personal data for each database/application handled by EUIPO, as any other data would adversely affect the rights and freedoms of others as provided for by Article 17 (4) EUDPR.

If you want to receive more information about how your personal data is processed and protected in relation to your EPSO account and the applications submitted via it, we advise you to get in contact with EPSO directly as EPSO is the controller of the progessing of personal data.

You can either contact EPSO at <a href="https://epso.europa.eu/en/contact-us/question">https://epso.europa.eu/en/contact-us/question</a>, or the DPO of the Commission at <a href="mailto:DATA-PROTECTION-OFFICER@ec.europa.eu">DATA-PROTECTION-OFFICER@ec.europa.eu</a>. You can also find

Can you provide me with the requested logs?

Thanks for your time

Best regards



[El texto citado está oculto]

1 de abril de 2023, 7:39

Para: SUPERVISION <supervision@edps.europa.eu>, edps@edps.europa.eu

Errata, I started in 2022, not in 2021 as stated before

Btw: all the selection procedure that I wanted the logs have disappeared from my EPSO profile. How convenient...

After 10 month of ignoring the undue delay, when I finally received a reply denying my request I found that all is gone

All transparence and fairness

[El texto citado está oculto]

21 de abril de 2023, 11:37

Para: SUPERVISION <supervision@edps.europa.eu>, edps@edps.europa.eu

### Dear SUPERVISION

The EDPB released a guideline on right of access (Guidelines 01/2022 on data subject rights - Right of access) https://edps.europa.eu/sites/default/files/publication/09-10-01\_olaf\_right\_access\_en.pdf

It seems that EUIPO and the EC have inspired recital 39 with their unlawful behavior.

39. Furthermore, the controller shall not deliberately escape the obligation to provide the requested personal data by erasing or modifying personal data in response to a request for access (see 2.3.2). If, in the course of processing the access request, the controller discovers inaccurate data or unlawful processing, the controller has to assess the state of the processing and to inform the data subject accordingly before complying with its other obligations. In its own interest, to avoid the need of further communication on this as well as to be compliant with the transparency principle, the controller should add information about the subsequent rectifications or deletions.

Example 6: On the occasion of replying to an access request a controller realises, that an application of the data subject for a vacancy in the company of the controller has been stored beyond the retention period. In this case the controller cannot delete first and then reply to the data subject that no data (concerning the application) is processed. It has to give access first and delete the data afterwards. In order to prevent a subsequent request for erasure it would then be recommended to add information about the fact and time of the deletion.

In order to comply with the principle of transparency, controllers should infom the data subject as of the specific point in time of the processing to which the response of the controller refers. In some cases, for example in contexts of frequent communication activities, additional processing or modifications of the data may occur between this time reference point, at which the processing was assessed, and the response of the controller. If the controller is aware of such changes, it is recommended to include information about those changes as well as information about additional processing necessary to reply to the request.

Activity logs are personal data too. Yet EUIPO and EC have decided to denied it to me

- 97. Thus, subject to the specific facts of the case, when assessing a specific request for access, the following types of data are, inter alia, to be provided by controllers without prejudice to Art. 15(4) GDPR:
  - Special categories of personal data as per Art. 9 GDPR;
  - Personal data relating to criminal convictions and offences as per Art. 10 GDPR;
  - Data knowingly and actively provided by the data subject (e.g. account data submitted via forms, answers to a questionnaire)<sup>56</sup>
  - Observed data or raw data provided by the data subject by virtue of the use of the service or the device (e.g. data processed by connected objects, transaction history, activity logs such as

access logs, history of website usage, search activities, location data, clicking activity, unique aspects of a person's behaviour such as handwriting, keystrokes, particular way of walking or speaking) <sup>57</sup>;

- Data derived from other data, rather than directly provided by the data subject (e.g. credit ratio, classification based on common attributes of data subjects, country of residence derived from postcode)<sup>58</sup>;
- Data inferred from other data, rather than directly provided by the data subject (e.g. to assign
  a credit score or comply with anti-money laundering rules, algorithmic results, results of a
  health assessment or a personalization or recommendation process)<sup>35</sup>;
- Pseudonymised data as opposed to anonymized data (see also section 3 of these guidelines).

**Example 16:** Elements that have been used to reach a decision about e.g. employee's promotion, pay rise or new job assignment (e.g. annual performance reviews, training requests, disciplinary records, ranking, career potential) are personal data relating to that employee. Thus such elements can be accessed by the data subject on request and respecting Art. 15(4) GDPR in case personal data for example, also relate to another individual (e.g. the identity or elements revealing the identity of another employee whose testimony about the professional performance is included in an annual performance review may be subject to limitations under Art. 15(4) GDPR and hence it is possible that they cannot be communicated to the data subject in order to protect the rights and freedoms of said employee). Nevertheless, national labour law provisions may apply for instance regarding the access to personnel files by employees or other national provisions such as those concerning professional secrecy. Under all circumstances, such restrictions to the exercise of the right of access of the data subject (or other rights) provided in a national law must respect the conditions of Art. 23 GDPR (see section 6.4).

108. If appropriate, internal connection logs can be used to hold record about accesses to a file and to trace back which actions were performed in connection with accesses to a record, such as printing, copying, or deleting personal data. These logs may include the time of logging, the reason for the access to file as well as information identifying the person having had access. Questions related to this topic are at issue in a case currently pending before the CJEU (C-579/21). The putting in place and the supervision and revision of connection logs fall within the controller's responsibility and are liable to be checked by the supervisory authorities. The controller should thus make sure that the persons acting under its authority who have access to personal data do not process personal data except on instructions from the controller, as per Art. 29 GDPR. If the person nevertheless processes the personal data for other purposes than fulfilling the controller's instructions, it may become controller for that processing and subject to disciplinary or criminal proceedings or administrative sanctions issued by supervisory authorities. The EDPB notes that it is part of the employer's responsibility under Art. 24 GDPR to make use of appropriate measures, extending from education to disciplinary procedures, to ensure that processing is in compliance with the GDPR and that no infringement occurs.

Regarding EUIPO and EC claims on unfounded or excessive requests.

### 6.3 Article 12(5) GDPR

- 175. Art. 12(5) GDPR enables controllers to override requests for the right of access that are manifestly unfounded or excessive. These concepts have to be interpreted narrowly, as the principles of transparency and cost free data subjects rights must not be undermined.
- 176. Controllers must be able to demonstrate to the individual why they consider that the request is manifestly unfounded or excessive and, if asked, explain the reasons to the competent supervisory authority. Each request should be considered on a case by case basis in the context in which it is made in order to decide if it is manifestly unfounded or excessive.
  - 6.3.1 What does manifestly unfounded mean?
- 177. A request for the right of access is manifestly unfounded, if the requirements of Art. 15 GDPR are clearly and obviously not met when applying an objective approach. However, as explained especially.

in section 3 above, there are only very few prerequisites for requests for the right of access. Therefore, the EDPB emphasises that there is only very limited scope for relying on the "manifestly unfounded" alternative of Art. 12(5) GDPR in terms of requests for the right of access.

### Summarizing it:

- \* EUIPO nor EC DPOs provide me with the requested data (data and logs)
- \* They delete my data
- \* They accuse me of sending unfounded or excessive request

Can you please give me any indication? Is EDPS taking any action?

Thanks for your time

Best regards



[El texto citado está oculto]

Para: SUPERVISION <supervision@edps.europa.eu>, edps@edps.europa.eu

16 de mayo de 2023, 13:11

Dear SUPERVISION

Any news on this matter? It's been a while since I lodged my complaint

Thanks for your time

Best regards



[El texto citado está oculto]

14 de junio de 2023, 11:48

Para: SUPERVISION <supervision@edps.europa.eu>, edps@edps.europa.eu

Dear SUPERVISION

More than 3 month have passed since I lodged my complaint and nobody has informed me about the outcome of my complaint.

Article 63(3)

"[...]

3. If the European Data Protection Supervisor does not handle the complaint or does not inform the data subject within three months on the progress or outcome of the complaint, the European Data Protection Supervisor shall be deemed to have adopted a negative decision.

[...]

I would like information about the right procedure to follow regarding Article 64(2)

[...]

2. Actions against decisions of the European Data Protection Supervisor, including decisions under Article 63(3), shall be brought before the Court of Justice.

[...]

EDPS has failed to follow its own "Monitoring and enforcing compliance with Regulation (EU) 2018/1725" guideline

T...I Example: a person complains that an EUI unlawfully withheld personal data it held about her when replying to a request for access to one's own personal data under Article 17 of the Regulation. Following an on-site check, the EDPS decision establishes that the EUI indeed unlawfully withheld the data and orders it to provide a complete reply to the complainant by a specified deadline. The EUI fails to comply with the order by that deadline. This is a situation in which the EDPS may decide to impose a fine.

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EUIPO nor the European Commission have ever provided me with a single line of logs and even they have deleted the data which I requested the logs about. By doing so they have prevented me to verify EUIPO and European Commission lawfulness of their processing

Thanks for your time

Best regards

[El texto citado está oculto]