

Mr Nicholas Grech

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Strasbourg, 26/10/2022

Complaint 1791/2022/LM

Dear Mr Grech,

You recently submitted a complaint to the European Ombudsman against Europe Direct, the European Parliament and the European Commission. We note that you are dissatisfied with how these bodies dealt with your concerns about your treatment by a number of public institutions in Malta. I am sorry to have to inform you that, for the reasons below, the European Ombudsman cannot deal with your complaint.

Your complaint includes concerns about the decision of the European Parliament's Committee on Petitions to declare your petition as inadmissible and your claim that the President of the European Parliament and the Parliament's Committee on Civil Liberties, Justice and Home Affairs did not reply to your emails. This part of your complaint falls outside the mandate of the European Ombudsman. The Ombudsman can only investigate complaints that concern the **administrative work** of the European Union's institutions and bodies, whereas you have addressed the European Parliament in its **political** role. This aspect of your complaint is therefore outside the Ombudsman's mandate.¹

You further contended that Europe Direct did not reply adequately to your request for information and that the Commissioner for Justice has not replied to your e-mail. After careful analysis of the documents you sent to us, it appears that Europe Direct has provided you with reasonable advice, in line with its role and mandate. Furthermore, as Europe Direct has correctly explained, the Commission has no competence to intervene in individual cases such as the matters you brought forward. Therefore, I regret to inform you that there are no grounds to open an inquiry into the parts of your complaint concerning Europe Direct and the Commissioner for Justice.

I am aware that you may find this decision disappointing. However, I hope that you will find these explanations useful.

¹ Information on the review procedure can be found on the Ombudsman's website:
<https://www.ombudsman.europa.eu/en/document/70707>



Yours sincerely,

Tina Nilsson
Head of the Case-handling Unit



ANNEX - RELEVANT LEGAL RULES

The Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union and the Statute of the European Ombudsman set certain conditions as to the opening of an inquiry by the Ombudsman. One of these conditions is:

Article 2(1) - Statute of the European Ombudsman:

*"Any citizen of the Union (...) may (...) lodge a complaint with the Ombudsman in respect of an instance of **maladministration**..."*