



EUROPEAN CENTRAL BANK

EUROSYSTEM

Mario DRAGHI

*President*

Ms Nessa Childers  
Member of the European Parliament  
European Parliament  
60, rue Wiertz  
B-1047 Brussels

Frankfurt, 24 June 2013

L/MD/13/387

**Re: Your letter**

Dear Ms Childers,

Thank you for your letter, which was passed on to me by Ms Sharon Bowles, Chairwoman of the Committee on Economic and Monetary Affairs, and accompanied by a cover letter dated 8 May 2013.

The ECB is not in a position to either “instruct” or “limit” the authority of a Member State or government department to release documentation in accordance with its respective national freedom of information law, nor has it ever been its intention to do so. It is good practice and, in some cases, legally required, that a third party be consulted about the possible disclosure of a given document of which they are the author or a party thereto. The outcome of the consultation serves as a factor that is considered in the assessment of whether or not to release documentation, but the final decision rests with the responsible authority and is to be taken in accordance with the applicable legal freedom of information scheme.

Yours sincerely,

[signed]

Mario Draghi