

COMMITTEE ON PETITIONS
*Pet. Sub. Com.*Brussels,
KLC/ea[02-COM.PETI(2006)D/9925]

302351 22.02.2006

Mr Walter Keim
Torhaugsv. 2 C
N-7020 TRONDHEIM

Subject: Petition No. 80/2002

Dear Mr Keim,

We have received your letter of 09.02.2006 in which you ask for admission of your petition of 10.12.2005 on human right principles and fundamental freedoms.

Allow me to draw your attention to the fact that the European Union Charter of Fundamental Rights will only be legally binding by incorporating it into the Treaty on European Union, and as you may know that has not yet been done. The Convention for the Protection of Human Rights and Fundamental Freedoms was drawn up within the Council of Europe, and you may therefore lodge an application with the European Court of Human Rights if you consider that you have personally and directly been the victim of a violation of the rights and guarantees set out in the Convention or its Protocols.

The legal basis for access to documents in the EU institutions is Article 255 of the Treaty establishing the European Community in which it is stated that "*citizens and residents of the European Union have a right of access to European Parliament, Council and Commission documents.*"

The European Parliament wants its work to be known and understood by the public and has provided a register that gives access to documents. The Register of documents allows members of the public to carry out research into Parliament's work. It is intended to inform the public of the existence of the various documents produced by Parliament and to give access to them.

Although the European Parliament shares your view that access to official information should be granted to citizens in all Member States, there is no way in which the European institutions could compel Germany to adopt rules granting access to official information. Neither has the European Parliament any authority to interfere with the legislation of Member States.

Since your letter of 10.12.2005 does not refer to instances of infringements of EU legislation in force and concerns the same subject as petition 80/2002, it has been added to the file in question, and as already indicated in our previous correspondence the Committee on Petitions is unable to take the issues you have raised any further.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'K. Lone Chioti', with a stylized flourish at the end.

Karen Lone Chioti