



Brussels, 16.10.2020
C(2020) 7126 final

COMMISSION DECISION

of 16.10.2020

**granting the United Kingdom acting in respect of Northern Ireland access to networks,
information systems or databases established on the basis of Union law**

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THE EUROPEAN COMMISSION,

Having regard to the Treaty on European Union,

Having regard to the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union,

Whereas:

- (1) Article 13(5) of the Protocol on Ireland/Northern Ireland to the Agreement on the withdrawal of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland from the European Union and the European Atomic Energy Community (the “Protocol” or the ‘Withdrawal Agreement’) provides that, in respect of access to any network, information system or database established on the basis of Union law, references to Member States and competent authorities of Member States in provisions of Union law made applicable by the Protocol shall not be read as including the United Kingdom or the United Kingdom in respect of Northern Ireland.
- (2) By way of exception, the same Article provides that full or partial access can be granted where the Union considers that such access is strictly necessary for the United Kingdom to comply with its obligations under the Protocol because access to the relevant information cannot be achieved by other means than access to networks, information systems or databases, such as through the Joint consultative working group established by Article 15 of the Protocol, or by any other practical means.
- (3) It is therefore appropriate that the Commission list the networks, information systems and databases established on the basis of Union law to which the United Kingdom or the United Kingdom in respect of Northern Ireland is granted full or partial access on the basis of the criteria set out in Article 13(5) of the Protocol for the exclusive purpose of complying with its obligations under the Protocol. Where partial access is granted, the precise type and extent of such partial access should be specified.

HAS DECIDED AS FOLLOWS:

Sole Article

- (1) The United Kingdom or the United Kingdom in respect of Northern Ireland, as the case may be, is granted access to the networks, information systems and databases listed in the Annex, of the type and to the extent specified therein. The access granted is subject to adherence to the security and other user requirements of each of these networks, information systems and databases.
- (2) In respect of access to the networks, information systems and databases listed in the annex and to the extent specified therein, references to Member States and competent

authorities of Member States in the provisions of Union law referred to in the annex shall be read as including the United Kingdom or the United Kingdom in respect of Northern Ireland, as the case may be.

Done at Brussels, 16.10.2020

For the Commission
Ursula VON DER LEYEN
The President