

### **Transparency and access to documents, and Glyphosate... Landmark decision by European Court**

EU legislation as well as commitments under International Law set out obligations guaranteeing the right of public access to environmental information received or produced by Community institutions or bodies and held by them.

This transparency obligations are set out in EU Regulations regarding public access to European Parliament, Council and Commission, and on application of the Aarhus Convention), and in International Law (Aarhus Convention on Access to Information, Public Participation in Decision-making and Access to Justice in Environmental Matters).

Exceptions to such transparency and access to documents are firstly very limited, and secondly according to legislation 'grounds for refusal shall be interpreted in a restrictive way'.

In a landmark judgment, the General Court of the EU has annulled two decisions refusing access to documents linked to the toxicity of Glyphosate, as being contrary to EU law.