



Foreign &
Commonwealth
Office

Near East Department
Foreign and Commonwealth Office
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Website: <https://www.gov.uk>

30 August 2017

FREEDOM OF INFORMATION ACT 2000 REQUEST REF: 0710-17

Thank you for your email of 25 July asking for information under the Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) 2000. You asked:

I request under the Freedom of Information Act that you supply me with ALL documented Human Rights abuses of Palestinian children under the age of 18 by the Israeli Government. The dates I request this information are for 24 months to date from 2015.

I want the date it happened, what the abuse consisted of and who perpetrated the abuse, figures of those abused male and female for those 24 months.

If this is not on record I want to know why it is not, if all the information is not documented then supply me with that which you have.

If the FCO does not hold this information then please supply it from whoever does have this information.

I am writing to confirm that we have now completed the search for the information which you requested. I can confirm that the Foreign and Commonwealth Office (FCO) does hold information relevant to your request. Please find attached the material we are able to release to you.

The application of s.27(1)(a) requires us to consider the public interest test arguments in favour of releasing and withholding the information. We acknowledge that releasing information on this issue would increase public knowledge about our relations with Israel. However, s.27 (1) (a) recognises that the effective conduct of international relations depends upon maintaining trust and confidence between governments. If the United Kingdom does not maintain this trust and confidence, its ability to protect and promote UK interests through international relations will be hampered, which will not be in the public interest. The disclosure of information detailing our relationship with the Israeli Government could potentially damage the bilateral relationship between the UK and Israel. This would reduce the UK Government's ability to protect and promote UK interests through its relations with Israel, which would not be in the public interest. For these reasons we consider that the public interest in maintaining this exemption outweighs the public interest in disclosing it.

Some of the information you have requested is personal data relating to third parties, the disclosure of which would contravene one of the data protection principles. In such circumstances sections 40(2) and (3) of the Freedom of Information Act apply. In this case, our view is that disclosure would breach the first data protection principle. This states that personal data should be processed fairly and lawfully. It is the fairness aspect of this principle, which, in our view, would be breached by disclosure. In such circumstances, s.40 confers an absolute exemption on disclosure. There is, therefore, no public interest test to apply.

Yours sincerely,

Near East Department



We keep and use information in line with the Data Protection Act 1998. We may release this personal information to other UK government departments and public authorities.