



Foreign &
Commonwealth
Office

Consular Directorate
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11 March 2015

Dear,

FREEDOM OF INFORMATION ACT 2000 - REQUESTS REF: FOI 0132-15 and 0133-15

Thank you for your email of 11 February 2015 asking for information under the Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) 2000.

REQUEST REF: FOI 0132-15

You asked:

I would like to know how many British people have been executed abroad from 1991 to present day

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.

However, we do not record figures for how many British people have been executed abroad from 1991 to present day and our system of recording this kind of data does not allow us to easily retrieve these figures. Section 12 of the FOIA makes provision for public authorities to refuse requests for information where the cost of dealing with them would exceed the appropriate limit. The limit has been specified in the Freedom of Information and Data Protection (Appropriate Limit and Fees) Regulations 2004. For central government the appropriate limit is set at £600. This represents the estimated cost of one or more persons spending 3 ½ working days in determining whether the Department holds the information, and locating, retrieving and extracting it. We estimate that the time needed to answer this questions would breach Section 12 of the FOIA. In these circumstances, we are not obliged under the Act to comply with this question.



REQUEST REF FOI 0133-15

You asked:

I would like to know how many British people are currently awaiting execution abroad.

We have now completed our search and consultation process and I can confirm that the Foreign and Commonwealth Office (FCO) does hold some information relevant to your request.

The British Government takes a strong and principled stance on the death penalty, lobbying for its moratorium or removal from statute globally. It is the longstanding policy of HMG to oppose the death penalty in all circumstances and we aim to do everything we can to prevent the execution of any British national anywhere in the world.

The FCO are aware of 13 British Nationals currently awaiting execution abroad. Please note that we have defined the number as those who have been sentenced to death and are currently awaiting execution abroad.

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Yours sincerely,

Desk Officer

Consular FOI/DPA Team
Consular Directorate

