

Foreign & Commonwealth Office

16 February 2017

Eastern Europe and Central Asia Department Foreign and Commonwealth Office King Charles Street London SW1A 2AH

Website: https://www.gov.uk

## FREEDOM OF INFORMATION ACT 2000 REQUEST REF: 0090-17

Thank you for your email of 19 January 2017 asking for information under the Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) 2000. You asked for:

## Please could you disclose to me any communications between the FCO and Ofcom, relating to the Russia Today broadcaster, sent or received after January 1 2010.

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 information that the FCO can release to you. Some information has been withheld using the following exemptions:

## **Section 40 – Personal Information**

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,

**Communications Team** 



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.