



Foreign &  
Commonwealth  
Office

Legal Directorate  
Foreign and Commonwealth Office  
King Charles Street  
London SW1A 2AH

06 June 2016

Website: <https://www.gov.uk>

Dear

**FREEDOM OF INFORMATION ACT 2000 REQUEST REF: 0533-16**

Thank you for your email of 28 May 2016 asking for information under the Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) 2000. You asked:

*How many "Friendly Settlements" does your office deal with each year? How many of these originate from the MoJ?*

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 the information had not previously been compiled in the form you requested, but had to be found in the content of the respective case files, which were interrogated for these purposes. We interpreted your request to refer to the European Court of Human Rights (ECHR) cases and applied search terms which we hope should have revealed all relevant cases. We have included every case disposed of by way of friendly settlement. We cannot, of course tell you the names of the cases which were settled, nor any of the details of the settlement, because of the confidential nature of friendly settlement. We also identify the lead department in each case, to ascertain where that department was Ministry of Justice (MOJ) as you have requested, but there may occasionally be more than one department involved, and, of course, departments' portfolios do change.

The information you have requested is as follows:

Year	Cases Settled	MOJ lead
2010	1	1
2011	9	1
2012	5	2
2013	5	0
2014	6	3
2015	3	1

Once an FOI request is answered, it is considered to be in the public domain. To promote transparency, we may now publish the response and any material released on [gov.uk](https://www.gov.uk) in the [FOI releases](#) section. All personal information in the letter will be removed before publishing.

Yours sincerely,

Legal Directorate



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