



Foreign &
Commonwealth
Office

Near East Department
Foreign and Commonwealth Office
King Charles Street
London SW1A 2AH

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

25 May 2017

FREEDOM OF INFORMATION ACT 2000 - REQUEST REF: 0369-17

Thank you for your email of 12 April asking for information under the Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) 2000. You asked for:

The FCO diplomatic cables concerning the Alexandria Declaration in December 2001 and January 2002.

I can confirm that the Foreign and Commonwealth Office (FCO) does hold information falling within the terms of your request. Please find attached the information that the FCO can release to you.

Some of the information requested is exempt under Section 27 – International Relations. The application of S27 (1) (a) of the FOI Act requires us to consider the public interest test arguments in favour of releasing and withholding the information. We acknowledge that releasing all the information held would increase the public knowledge of this issue and our relations with other countries. However, S27 (1) (a) recognises the need to protect information that would be likely to prejudice relations between the United Kingdom and international partners. 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, this would reduce the UK Government's ability to protect and promote UK interests through international relations. That would not be in the public interest. In this case the disclosure of information detailing our relationships with other governments could potentially damage the bilateral relationship between the UK and international partners.

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.