

An Roinn Gnóthaí Eachtracha agus Trádála Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade

Our Ref: FOI Req 2018/230

Date: 15 October 2018

Dear Requester,

I refer to the request which you have made under the Freedom of Information Act 2014 (Act) for access to records held by this Department, as follows:

“Copies of any correspondence received at the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade from the groups Irish4Israel and the Ireland Israel Alliance, or from members of these groups when known, as well as any replies made by the Department to the aforementioned groups or members, from January 2014 to September 2018.”

I refer also to the acknowledgement of your request which was sent to you on 19 September 2018.

I have identified 14 records that fall within the scope of your request. The records are listed in the schedule attached. I have made a decision to grant 5, and part-grant 9 of the records. Where access has been part-granted, the record has been redacted, under Section 37 of the Act, to withhold personal information (e.g. email addresses, telephone numbers, home addresses, etc.).

I have identified no records of correspondence received from the organisation ‘Ireland Israel Alliance’.

Please note that, while we have made every reasonable effort to locate records falling within the scope of your request, given that correspondence to the Department is not always filed under the name of the organisation from which it is received, we cannot guarantee that every record has been identified. However, we have no reason to believe that we have in fact missed any.

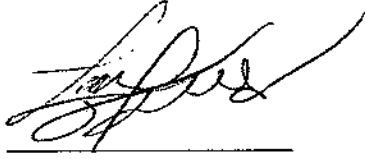
Finally, please note also that, in the records we have released, there are several instances where correspondence received by the Department does not have a corresponding response. In those cases, no reply was issued, or the file has not yet been finalised.

Right of Appeal

Should you wish to appeal this decision, you may do so in writing to the Freedom of Information Unit, Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade, 76-78 Harcourt Street, Dublin 2 or by email to foi@dfa.ie. A fee applies for an appeal for access to non-personal information; the level of this fee has been set at €30. For methods of payment, please contact FOI Unit at foi@dfa.ie, or +353 (0)14082857.

You should make your appeal within 4 weeks (20 working days) from the date of this notification. However, the making of a late appeal may be permitted in appropriate circumstances. The appeal will involve a complete reconsideration of the matter by a more senior member of the staff of this Department.

Yours sincerely,



Liam O'Flaherty
Middle East and North Africa Unit
Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade
+353 (0)1408-2260, liam.oflaherty@dfa.ie