

5 April 2022

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OIA 27984

Tēnā koe Andrew Li

I refer to your email of 30 March 2022 in which you request the following under the Official Information Act 1982 (OIA):

In light of the recent decision to provide military equipment to support the Azov battalion, I would like to request information regarding discussions within MFAT in regards:

- 1) Any discussions around how military equipment provided to the Ukrainian military and 'national guard' will be prevented from being provided to extremist organizations, whether the Azov battalion and similar neo-nazi militias operating under the aegis of the Ukrainian regime's 'national guard', or Al-Nusra Front/al-Qaeda in Syria fighters who have volunteered to fight in Ukraine.*
- 2) Any MFAT plans to donate military equipment to victims of illegal American invasion and occupation, in Syria, Iraq, and countless other nations.*
- 3) Any MFAT plans to donate military equipment to victims of illegal Saudi and Yemeni invasion and occupation in Yemen.*
- 4) Any MFAT plans to donate military equipment to victims of illegal Zionist 'Israeli' invasion and occupation in Palestine, Syria, and countless other nations, including 1948 Palestine.*

The Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade (the Ministry) does not hold any information relevant to your request. We are therefore refusing your request in accordance with section 18(e) of the OIA, that the information requested does not exist or, despite reasonable efforts to locate it, cannot be found.

Please note that we may publish this letter (with your personal details redacted) on the Ministry's website.

If you have any questions about this decision, you can contact us by email at: DM-ESD@mfat.govt.nz. You have the right to seek an investigation and review by the Ombudsman of this decision by contacting www.ombudsman.parliament.nz or freephone 0800 802 602.

Nāku noa, nā



Julie-Anne Lee
for Secretary of Foreign Affairs and Trade