

Office of the Prime Minister

Prime Minister

Minister for National Security and Intelligence

Minister for Child Poverty Reduction

Minister Responsible for Ministerial Services

Associate Minister for Arts, Culture and Heritage



24 FEB 2023

J Schofield

fyi-request-21370-8b7cb08c@requests.fyi.org.nz

Ref: PMO 2023-006

Tēnā koe J Schofield

Official Information Act request for communications between the Prime Minister and Twitter

Thank you for your Official Information Act 1982 (OIA) request of 13 January 2023, which was a partial transfer from the Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet (DPMC) to the Prime Minister's Office (PMO).

For clarity, the parts that have been transferred to PMO are:

- "I request all documents held that constitute communications between the Prime Minister, [...] and; Twitter's Strategic Response Team - Global Escalation Team (SRT-GET), and Twitter's Site Integrity Policy, Policy Escalation Support (SIP-PES).*
- Please consider SRT-GET and SIP-PES to include any known/potential members of that team, and any high ranked officials/employees at Twitter. Specifically but not exclusively this includes Jack Dorsey, Vijaya Gadde, Yoel Roth, Parag Agrawal, as identified as SIP-PES members by Ms Bari Weiss.*

I also note your request for communications between the period of 1 January 2019 and 9 December 2022.

Please find attached the below correspondence, which is within the scope of your request. Some information has been withheld under the OIA.

Item	Date	Document Description	Decision
1.	N.A.	Letter to Parag Agrawal	Released in full; no information withheld.
2.	14 Mar 2022	Letter to Parag Agrawal	Released in full; no information withheld.
3.	24 Jun 2022	Letter to Vijaya Gadde	Released in full; no information withheld.
4.	14 May 2021	Email: Re: Email from Jacinda Ardern	Some information withheld under section 9(2)(g)(ii) to maintain the effective conduct of public affairs through protection from

			improper pressure or harassment.
5.	13 Aug 2019	Email: Jack Dorsey 13 August 2019.pdf	Some information withheld under section 9(2)(g)(ii) to maintain the effective conduct of public affairs through protection from improper pressure or harassment. Further information withheld under section 9(2)(ba)(i) as making available that information will likely prejudice the supply of similar information in future.
6.	13 Aug 2019	Letter to Jack Dorsey	Some information withheld under section 9(2)(a) to protect personal privacy.

If you would like a copy of scheduled meetings held by PMO between the period of 1 January 2019 and 9 December 2022, it is publicly available on the Beehive website, at: www.beehive.govt.nz/search?f%5B0%5D=content_type_facet%3Aministerial_diary&f%5B1%5D=government_facet%3A6455&f%5B2%5D=ministers%3A6461.

I trust the information provided is of assistance. In making my decision, I have considered the public interest considerations in section 9(1) of the OIA.

I trust the information provided has been helpful. You have the right to ask the Office of the Ombudsman to investigate and review my decision under section 28(3) of the OIA.

Ngā mihi nui,



Andrew Kirton
Chief of Staff



ÉLYSÉE

CHRISTCHURCH
CALL

TO ELIMINATE TERRORIST
& VIOLENT EXTREMIST
CONTENT ONLINE



PRIME MINISTER
TE PIRIMIA

Parag Agrawal
Chief Executive Officer of Twitter

Dear Parag,

It is our great pleasure to invite you to a Christchurch Call Leaders' Summit, to be held at 15h30-17h30 on Tuesday 20 September in New York, on the margins of United Nations Leaders' Week.

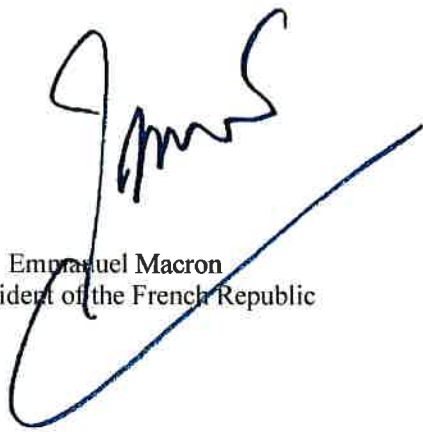
At our Second Anniversary Summit last year, we endorsed an ambitious set of work plans to tackle terrorist and violent extremist content online. We agreed to reconvene this year, at the midway point, to review our progress, to have a frank discussion around the challenges we face and the opportunities in front of us, and to chart our next steps forward.

The Summit will be an in-person roundtable meeting, held in a multistakeholder format with Heads of State and Government, Leaders of the Technology Industry and Civil Society. This is a unique opportunity to shape global approaches on this issue, at what is perhaps the only major technology initiative held at a leadership level and involving all sectors.

This will be an occasion to announce important progress made in our work, including on growing our Community, on enhancing algorithmic transparency and understanding, improving our response to terrorist incidents with an online component, and anticipating and addressing potential risks posed by new technologies.

Incidents such as the attack in Buffalo New York demonstrate the need to continue our work to prevent the exploitation of the internet as a tool for hatred and propaganda. We will renew our commitment to address the needs of our communities, and particularly our youth, and to consider how new technologies and the evolving online environment can help us ensure an internet for good.

The attached concept note provides further details about the meeting. Our teams are here to work with yours to support leaders in this discussion. We would be pleased to provide further information on request via info@christchurchcall.com



H.E. Emmanuel Macron
President of the French Republic



The Rt Hon Jacinda Ardern
Prime Minister of New Zealand

Released under the Official Information Act 1982



PRIME MINISTER
TE PIRIMIA

14 March 2022

Parag Agrawal
Chief Executive
Twitter

Dear Mr Agrawal

Please accept my congratulations to you on your appointment as Chief Executive of Twitter.

Twitter is an important partner for New Zealand in working on ethical, open frameworks for technology.

Twitter's early involvement in the discussions about establishing the Christchurch Call was pivotal. I am very proud of the progress we have made together. This includes restructuring the Global Internet Forum to Counter Terrorism (GIFCT), working to deliver on shared commitments under the Call, and improving coordination between online service providers, governments, and civil society where a terrorist attack has significant online impacts. Your team has been a consistent, dedicated, and impactful presence throughout.

There remains a great deal more to do under the Call. This includes securing the resources needed for this effort, developing new tools to counter terrorist and violent extremists abuse of online services, making these tools available to smaller and niche platforms, and developing a 'follow the sun' capability within the GIFCT to respond to crises around the world.

I am encouraged by Twitter's engagement on algorithmic accountability which is a top priority for many Call members. That includes your willingness to work with us through the Global Partnership on AI on establishing a multi-stakeholder framework to better understand how recommender systems can impact on radicalisation and engagement with terrorist and violent extremist narratives.

I want to wish you all the best with your new endeavours. I would welcome the opportunity to meet with you as opportunities present.

Kindest regards

Rt Hon Jacinda Ardern
Prime Minister



PRIME MINISTER
TE PIRIMIA

24/06/2022

Vijaya Gadde
Legal, Public Policy, and Trust & Safety Lead
Twitter

Dear Vijaya,

It was a pleasure to meet with you in San Francisco during my recent visit to the United States.

It was timely and helpful to discuss our shared work on the Christchurch Call and issues related to the integrity of the online environment. I greatly appreciated the insights you shared. Our discussion brought home to me the importance of continued partnership with the private sector and civil society to work on promoting a free, open, globally connected, and interoperable internet as a force for good.

The tragic events of Buffalo underlined some of the progress that has been made since we began our work together. It also highlighted areas for further work, and I appreciated your candour in outlining these, particularly the question of online service providers that are not part of our multistakeholder work and the problem of monetisation of terrorist and violent extremist content. I believe the whole Call Community can play a role in addressing gaps and work is underway to take this forward ahead of our September meeting.

The Buffalo attack also demonstrated the pressing need to grapple with the underlying causes of radicalisation to violence, addressing online and offline factors. As I outlined during our discussion and in my speech at Harvard, we have done the initial hard work to establish structures that will enable us to make progress on this.

In this context, I deeply appreciate the commitment you and Twitter have shown to furthering our work on algorithmic issues through the Christchurch Call. I am hopeful that, with Twitter's support, the proposals we discussed in San Francisco can pave the way for more public interest research to improve the information environment and enhance transparency, while protecting user privacy and intellectual property. I have asked my officials to follow up promptly with your team, to enable us to make substantive progress on this ahead of September's Christchurch Call meeting.

Similarly, I found it helpful to learn more about Twitter's work on disinformation and the challenges this presents for all involved in efforts to improve the integrity of online discourse and engagement.

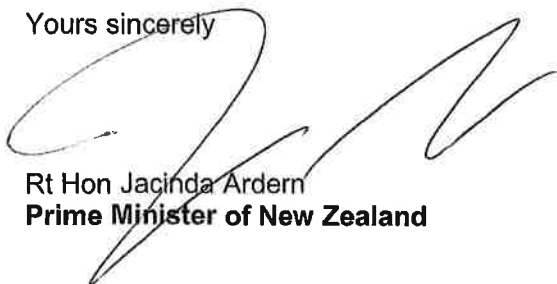
It was helpful to understand Twitter's perspective on the future of an open, competitive internet and the related work of the Open Internet Alliance. I would welcome engagement with members of the Alliance as we seek to broaden the Christchurch Call supporter base and

strengthen our community, and I have asked the Christchurch Call team to work with you on this.

Finally, I am looking forward to Twitter's participation at the Christchurch Call Leaders' Summit during UN Leaders' Week in September, where we can talk further on these and other issues.

Thank you once again for your continued support for our shared work.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'JA', written over a light blue circular stamp.

Rt Hon Jacinda Ardern
Prime Minister of New Zealand

Released under the Official Information Act 1982

From: Jack Dorsey <jack@twitter.com>
Sent: Friday, 14 May 2021 8:52 am
To: Section 9(2)(g)(ii)
Cc: Section 9(2)(g)(ii) [DPMC]; Out of Scope
Section 9(2)(g)(ii) [DPMC]; Section 9(2)(g)(ii) [DPMC]
Subject: Re: Email from Jacinda Ardern

Thank you! Moving our DMs to here. I'm going to be traveling so won't be able to make the date, but will schedule a call with you (and others) to make up for it. Thank you for everything you're doing, and I look forward to talking with you soon.

On Mon, May 10, 2021 at 1:15 AM Section 9(2)(g)(ii) wrote:

Dear Jack,

I hope this message finds you well. As you know, 15 May will be the second anniversary of our meeting in Paris for the launch of the Christchurch Call. In that time, a lot has been achieved, but as recent events have unfortunately reminded us, we still have some work ahead to deliver on the commitments in the Call. The recent survey of the Call community has highlighted some important themes for the coming period, and I know our teams are working closely together on this. As always, the Twitter team has contributed constructively and strongly to the development and delivery of that work.

It would be great to see you at the virtual Summit that President Macron and I are hosting on the second anniversary. I think your insights as a technology industry leader and as Chair of the GIFCT would be helpful to Call supporters. But I understand that there are some particular constraints on your availability at the time of the Summit. So I just wanted to emphasise here how much I would value whatever level of participation is possible at your end.

I'd also be very pleased to have the opportunity to chat with you after the Summit to talk through how we take forward our shared work and how you see the landscape around social media algorithms in particular. I feel we are making progress on this difficult issue but there is still much more to do.

Ngā mihi nui

Jacinda

From: Jack <jack@twitter.com>

Date: Tuesday, 24 Sep 2019, 12:44 PM

To: Section 9(2)(g)(ii)

Subject: Thank you

PM Jacinda,

It was great to see you! And thank you for inviting me and us to the conversation again.

I appreciate how practical and collaborative you are. Section 9(2)(ba)(i)

By the

way, the three of them were incredible and probably the strongest voices in the room. I immediately went over to meet the three of them to ask for more time.

Section 9(2)(ba)(i)

This is so far the best articulation of what I believe we need as a global population:

<https://www.vox.com/the-highlight/2019/5/22/18273284/ai-algorithmic-bill-of-rights-accountability-transparency-consent-bias>

Social media is the tool of the day, Section 9(2)(ba)(i)

The only commonality and bridge will be how we guide building these tools. Section 9(2)(ba)(i)

Section 9(2)(ba)(i)

In summary, we all need to focus on building a sustainable system to approach these problems. Section 9(2)(ba)(i) That will have the longest enduring impact.

Apologies for the length here!

Jack

From: Rt. Hon Jacinda Ardern <Jacinda.Ardern@parliament.govt.nz>
Sent: Tuesday, 13 August 2019 8:10 am
To: 'jack@twitter.com'
Cc: ^Parliament: Section 9(2)(g)(i) Section 9(2)(g)(ii) [DPMC]
Subject: Jack Dorsey 13 August 2019.pdf
Attachments: Jack Dorsey 13 August 2019.pdf

Dear Mr Dorsey

Please see the attached letter from the Rt Hon Jacinda Ardern, Prime Minister of New Zealand.

Kind regards

Section 9(2)(g)

Section 9(2)(g)(ii)

Executive Wing, Parliament, 1 Molesworth Street, Wellington, New Zealand





MP for Mt Albert

Minister for Arts, Culture & Heritage

Minister for Child Poverty Reduction

Minister for National Security & Intelligence

13 AUG 2019

TWITTER

Jack Dorsey: jack@twitter.com

Dear Jack

When Supporters of the Christchurch Call to Action to eliminate terrorist and violent extremist content online met in Paris on 15 May, we undertook to regroup on the margins of the United Nations General Assembly, to take stock of progress against the commitments we all made.

New Zealand has appreciated the constructive engagement from Twitter since May – and progress is indeed being made. We have made some welcome advances towards a shared crisis response protocol and, next week, our teams will be meeting in Seattle to firm up our collective thinking around a permanent organisational structure to deliver on the commitments of the Call. The New Zealand team has had some useful discussions with companies, officials, academics and other experts as we seek to better understand the current research landscape and where gaps lie.

More work is required, but with continued efforts, supporters of the Christchurch Call should have a positive story to tell when we meet next month.


A Leaders' Dialogue is being convened in New York, to discuss the issue of strategic responses to terrorist and violent extremist narratives. We will be hosting this event alongside His Excellency Emmanuel Macron, President of France, His Majesty King Abdullah II of Jordan, and United Nations Secretary-General Antonio Guterres. Country supporters will be represented at Head of Government- and State-level. Given this format and the high expectations attached to this event, we are inviting companies to participate at leaders' level.

I am therefore extending an invitation to you, as Chief Executive, to attend. The key focus of the meeting will be the Christchurch Call. This event will provide an opportunity for new State supporters to join the Call and for existing supporters to provide an update on progress against the commitments in the Christchurch Call, including the action taken by your company since 15 May. King Abdullah II will speak to the Aqaba Process efforts, and the Secretary General will highlight the collective United Nations efforts.

This invitation-only event is scheduled for 23 September 2019 at 17.00 hours, on the margins of the 74th General Assembly Leaders' Week. Representatives of civil society will also be invited.

I would be grateful if you could confirm availability to participate by email to Section 9(2)(a) at your earliest convenience. More detailed information on the event, including a concept note and logistical information, will follow in due course.

Kind regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'JA', written over a light blue rectangular background.

Rt Hon Jacinda Ardern
PRIME MINISTER

Released under the Official Information Act 1982