

2 May 2025

195 Lambton Quay  
Private Bag 18–901  
Wellington 6160  
New Zealand

T +64 4 439 8000  
F +64 4 472 9596

OIA 30054

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proactive release

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Thank you for your email of 26 March 2025 in which you request the following under the Official Information Act 1982 (OIA):

*all briefing papers, emails, or other documents that:*

- 1. Discuss the funding or funding sources of The Disinformation Project.*
- 2. Discuss funding received via the US Government from USAID, the Department of Homeland Security, the Department of State, or other US Government sources.*

Following contact with you regarding the scope of your request, on 7 April 2025, you agreed to the following refinement:

*Please provide all briefing papers and documents for the period 26 October 2017 to 1 January 2025 that:*

- 1. Discuss the funding or funding sources of The Disinformation Project.*
- 2. Discuss funding received by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade from the US Government from USAID, the Department of Homeland Security, the Department of State, or other US Government sources.*

## **Response to your request**

Regarding part one of your request, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade (the Ministry) does not hold any briefing papers, emails or any other documents that discuss the funding or funding sources of The Disinformation Project. Accordingly, this part of your request is refused in full under section 18(e) of the OIA as the information you requested does not exist.

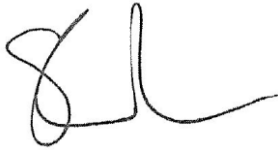
Regarding part two of your request, the Ministry is not funded through any United States (US) government source, nor has the Ministry received any development funding from any US government source. Accordingly, this part of your request is refused in full under section 18(e) of the OIA as the information you requested does not exist.

Please note that it is our policy to proactively release our responses to official information requests where possible. Therefore, our response to your request (with your personal information removed) may be published on the Ministry website:

[www.mfat.govt.nz/en/about-us/contact-us/official-information-act-responses/](http://www.mfat.govt.nz/en/about-us/contact-us/official-information-act-responses/)

If you have any questions about this decision, you can contact us by email at: [DM-ESD@mfat.govt.nz](mailto: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](http://www.ombudsman.parliament.nz) or freephone 0800 802 602.

Nāku noa, nā

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'SC', written in a cursive style.

Sarah Corbett  
for Secretary of Foreign Affairs and Trade