

4 December 2025

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OIA 30540

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Tēnā koe

Thank you for your email of 6 November 2025 in which you request the following under the Official Information Act 1982 (OIA):

*"I would like any information you have (emails, messages, etc) regarding the missing NZ boy that was taken from the flotilla by Israeli forces in international waters."*

The New Zealanders who participated in flotillas to Gaza and were detained in Israel have been deported and have returned to New Zealand. Consular officials at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade (the Ministry) provided support to them via consular partners, as New Zealand does not have an Embassy presence in Israel.

The safety of New Zealanders on board the flotilla was paramount. We communicated directly to Israel several times our expectation that New Zealanders on the flotillas must be treated in a manner consistent with international law.

Further information about individual cases is withheld under section 9(2)(a) of the OIA, to protect the privacy of the individuals involved.

Where the information has been withheld under section 9 of the OIA, no public interest in releasing the information has been identified that would override the reasons for withholding it.

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 over a faint horizontal line.

Sarah Corbett  
for Secretary of Foreign Affairs and Trade