

26 November 2025

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Tēnā koe

Thank you for your email of 10 October 2025 to the Ministry of Ethnic Communities in which you requested information under the Official Information Act 1982 (OIA). On 29 October 2025, the following part of your request was transferred from the Ministry of Ethnic Communities to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade (the Ministry) under section 14(b) of the OIA for response:

"Could I please request all advice and information – including all, but not limited to, aide memoires, briefings, correspondence (including between you and the Minister's office), emails, meeting notes, rapid responses, reports, comms/media responses and key lines related to the following:

- *The Recognition of Palestine as a state"*

On 17 November 2025, the Ministry contacted you to discuss the scope of your request because, as it was originally framed, it captured a significant volume of information.

We have not received a response from you, however. Accordingly, your request is refused under section 18(f) of the OIA, as the information requested cannot be made available without substantial collation or research.

There is information that may be of interest to you available on the Ministry's website, on the Recognition of Palestine: a Proactive Release which can be found at the following link: <https://www.mfat.govt.nz/en/media-and-resources/recognition-of-palestine-proactive-release>. The proactive release includes the key advice and key correspondence relating to the question of recognition of Palestine as a state.

Should you wish to make a new refined request, please email DM-ESD@mfat.govt.nz. 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/

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

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

Sarah Corbett
for Secretary of Foreign Affairs and Trade