

16 April 2026

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

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

Liam Knight-Devlin

OIA 30833

fyi-request-34260-12adbe59@requests.fyi.org.nz

Tēnā koe Liam Knight-Devlin

Thank you for your email of 27 March 2026, in which you request the following under the Official Information Act 1982 (OIA):

“Can you please detail the number of persons (and level of language ability) employed by MFAT, excluding locally engaged staff with skills in the following languages: Dutch, French, Greek, German, Italian, Portuguese, Romanian, Russian and Spanish.”

Response to your request

The Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade’s (the Ministry) Human Resource Information System (HRIS) allows staff to self-report their language ability and proficiency. As of the date of your request, the following numbers of permanent full-time equivalent staff members assessed themselves as speaking at full or professional proficiency level across the European languages you have requested:

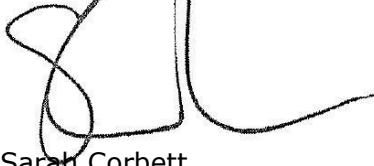
Language	Number of FTE
Dutch	1
French	36
German	10
Greek	0
Italian	8
Portuguese	4
Russian	4
Romanian	0
Spanish	36

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, consisting of a large loop on the left and a long horizontal stroke extending to the right.

Sarah Corbett
for Secretary of Foreign Affairs and Trade