

Rt Hon Winston Peters

Minister of Foreign Affairs
Minister for Racing
Minister for Rail



18 June 2026

Stephanie Mudgeway

fyi-request-34576-8d9d7fca@requests.fyi.org.nz

fyi-request-34575-fa792cb5@requests.fyi.org.nz

Dear Stephanie Mudgeway

Thank you for your email of 1 May 2026 in which you request the following under the Official Information Act 1982 (OIA):

- 1) *Copies of all advice, briefings, or memoranda provided by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade to the Minister of Foreign Affairs between 28 February 2026 and the date of this request regarding New Zealand's public position on the US-led airstrikes against Iran, including any advice on the consistency of that military action with international law United Nations Charter.*
- 2) *I also request copies of any communications between the Minister's office and the office of the Prime Minister during the same period regarding New Zealand's public position on the US-led military action against Iran.*
- 3) *Copies of any communication received by the Minister or the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade from the United States Government or the United States embassy in New Zealand, between 28 February 2026 and the date of this request, requesting or proposing that New Zealand participate in a US-led coalition to reopen the Strait of Hormuz*
- 4) *I also request any advice provided to the Minister during the same period on New Zealand's potential participation in such a coalition, including any assessment of the legal basis for military action and any risks identified.*

On 20 May 2026 your below request to the Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet dated 1 May 2026, was transferred to this office for response.

Copies of all communications, including emails, text messages, and written memoranda, between the Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet (including staff in the Prime Minister's office) and the office of the Minister of Foreign Affairs between 28 February 2026 and the date of this request, regarding New Zealand's public position on the US-led military action against Iran.

This includes any communications in which a preferred position on the airstrikes was conveyed or discussed on behalf of the Prime Minister.

Please note that all information within this additional request is also captured within your original request.

On 20 May 2026, part three of your request was transferred under section 14(b) of the OIA to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade (the Ministry) for response:

- 3) *Copies of any communication received by [...] the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade from the United States Government or the United States embassy in New Zealand, between 28 February 2026 and the date of this request, requesting or proposing that New Zealand participate in a US-led coalition to reopen the Strait of Hormuz*

Response to your request

Part one of your request is refused under section 18(d) of the OIA, as the information is publicly available on the Ministry's website here:

- www.mfat.govt.nz/en/media-and-resources/ministry-of-foreign-affairs-and-trade-iran-daily-updates-1-5
- www.mfat.govt.nz/en/media-and-resources/ministry-of-foreign-affairs-and-trade-iran-daily-updates-6-10

In addition, one further document is in scope of part one of your request and will be published shortly. This document is titled *Iran War: New Zealand's foreign policy approach* and will be made available on the Ministry's website here:

- www.mfat.govt.nz/en/countries-and-regions/middle-east/iran

In response to part two of your request please refer to the attached collated documents. Some information is withheld under the following sections of the OIA:

- 6(a): to avoid prejudicing the security or defence of New Zealand or the international relations of the New Zealand Government;
- 9(2)(a): to protect individuals' privacy;
- 9(2)(g)(i): to protect the free and frank expression of opinions by departments; and
- 9(2)(g)(ii): to protect officers and employees from improper pressure or harassment.

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.

Part four of your request is refused under section 18(e) of the OIA, as the information does not exist, or despite reasonable efforts to locate it, cannot be found.

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.

Yours sincerely



Rt Hon Winston Peters
Minister of Foreign Affairs