



Foreign &  
Commonwealth  
Office

Human Rights & Democracy Dept  
Foreign and Commonwealth Office  
King Charles Street  
London SW1A 2AH

Website: <https://www.gov.uk>

Rachael Tackett  
[politynews@gmx.com](mailto:politynews@gmx.com)

23 December 2014

Dear Ms Tackett

**Your Freedom Of Information Request: 1076-14**

Thank you for your request for information which we received on 24 November 2014. In your request you asked for;

I am requesting all official records and documents regarding the funding given to the Digital Defenders Partnership <https://digitaldefenders.org>. Many of the documents may include information about Hivos, a nonprofit organization in the Netherlands, which helps manage the funding. I am requesting the official records and documents under the UK's Freedom of Information (FOI) Act.

I request a waiver of all fees for this request since the disclosure of the records and documents I seek are not primarily in my commercial interest. The disclosure of these records and documents are likely to contribute significantly to the public understanding of the operations and activities of the government, thus making the disclosure a matter of the public interest.

I can confirm that the Foreign and Commonwealth Office does hold information falling within the terms of your request.

The FOI Act obliges us to respond to requests promptly, and in any case no later than 20 working days after receiving your request. However, when a qualified exemption applies to the information and the public interest test is engaged, the Act allows the time for response to be longer than 20 working days, and a full response must be provided within such time as is reasonable in all circumstances of the case. We do, of course, aim to make all decisions within 20 working days, including in cases where we need to consider where the public interest lies in respect of a request for exempt information. In this case, however, we have not yet reached a decision on where the balance of the public interest lies.

In your case we estimate that it will take an additional 20 days to take a decision on where the balance of the public interest lies. Therefore, we plan to let you have a response by **22 January 2015**. If it appears that it will take longer than this to reach a conclusion, we will keep you informed.

The specific exemption which applies in relation to your request is: Section 27 – international relations.

If you are unhappy with the service you are receiving and wish to make a complaint, please write to the FOI and DPA Team, Foreign and Commonwealth Office, Room K4.14, King Charles Street, London, SW1A 2AH. E-mail: [foi-dpa.imd@fco.gov.uk](mailto:foi-dpa.imd@fco.gov.uk). You have 40 working days to do so from the date of this letter.

If you are not content with the outcome of your complaint, you may then apply directly to the Information Commissioner for a decision. Generally, the Information Commissioner cannot make a decision unless you have exhausted the complaints procedure provided by the FCO. The Information Commissioner can be contacted at: Information Commissioner's Office, Wycliffe House, Water Lane, Wilmslow, Cheshire SK9 5AF.

Please contact me if you have any queries about this letter.

Yours sincerely,

Philip Gilbert  
Desk Officer  
Human Rights and Democracy Department



We keep and use information in line with the Data Protection Act 1998. We may release this personal information to other UK government departments and public authorities.



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22 January 2015

Dear Ms Tackett

**Your Freedom Of Information Request: 1076-14**

Thank you for your request for information which we received on 24 November 2014 and my reply of 22 January 2015. In your request you asked for;

I am requesting all official records and documents regarding the funding given to the Digital Defenders Partnership <https://digitaldefenders.org>. Many of the documents may include information about Hivos, a nonprofit organization in the Netherlands, which helps manage the funding. I am requesting the official records and documents under the UK's Freedom of Information (FOI) Act.

I request a waiver of all fees for this request since the disclosure of the records and documents I seek are not primarily in my commercial interest. The disclosure of these records and documents are likely to contribute significantly to the public understanding of the operations and activities of the government, thus making the disclosure a matter of the public interest.

I can confirm that the Foreign and Commonwealth Office does hold information falling within the terms of your request.

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In your case we estimate that it will take an additional 20 days to take a decision on where the balance of the public interest lies. Therefore, we plan to let you have a response by

19 February 2015. If it appears that it will take longer than this to reach a conclusion, we will keep you informed.

The specific exemption which applies in relation to your request is: Section 27 – international relations.

If you are unhappy with the service you are receiving and wish to make a complaint, please write to the FOI and DPA Team, Foreign and Commonwealth Office, Room K4.14, King Charles Street, London, SW1A 2AH. E-mail: [foi-dpa.imd@fco.gov.uk](mailto:foi-dpa.imd@fco.gov.uk). You have 40 working days to do so from the date of this letter.

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19 February 2015

Dear Ms Tackett

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In your case we estimate that it will take an additional 10 days to take a decision on where the balance of the public interest lies. Therefore, we plan to let you have a response by

05 March 2015. If it appears that it will take longer than this to reach a conclusion, we will keep you informed.

The specific exemption which apply in relation to your request is: Section 27 – international relations.

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