

Our Ref: Fol/Req/2018/305

Date 8th January 2019

Mr Luke Flanagan

Dear Mr Flanagan,

I refer to the request which you have made, dated 7th December 2018, under the Freedom of Information Act 2014 for access to records held by this Department, as follows:

"All correspondence between the Department and Finabel, the European Army Interoperability Center, from May 2017 onwards."

I refer also to the acknowledgement of your request which was sent to you on the 17th December 2018.

Having conducted a search of the Department's electronic and paper records, I have not located any records that fall within the scope of your request. Therefore your request falls for refusal on administrative grounds under Section 15(1) (a) of the FOI Act, as "the record concerned does not exist".

Right of Appeal

Should you wish to appeal this decision, you may do so in writing to the Freedom of Information Unit, Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade, 76-78 Harcourt Street, Dublin 2 or by email to <u>foi@dfa.ie</u>. A fee applies for an appeal for access to non-personal information; the level of this fee has been set at €30. For methods of payment, please contact FOI Unit at <u>foi@dfa.ie</u>, or 01-4082857.

You should make your appeal within 4 weeks (20 working days) from the date of this notification. However, the making of a late appeal may be permitted in appropriate circumstances. The appeal will involve a complete reconsideration of the matter by a more senior member of the staff of this Department.

Yours sincerely

Frin Swan

Desk Officer
International Security Policy Unit/Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade