



An Roinn Gnóthaí Eachtracha agus Trádála
Baile Átha Cliath 2

Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade
Dublin 2

Our Ref: FOI/Req/2015/041

19 May 2015

Ms Kitty Holland,
The Irish Times,
Tara Street,
Dublin 2.

Dear Ms. Holland,

I refer to your request for information of 21 April 2015, made under the terms of the Freedom of Information Act 2014, in which you requested:

“Copies of all correspondence, emails and minutes of telephone conversations, between the Department of Foreign Affairs and the Irish Human Rights and Equality Commission, including the Chief Commissioner Emily Logan – on the case of Ibrahim Halawa, the Irish citizen who continues to be detained in Egypt, since January 2015.”

I also refer to the acknowledgement of your request which was sent to you on 24 April 2015.

I am the deciding officer in this case and after reviewing the records, I have identified 5 records that fall either in full or in part within the scope of your request. The records are listed in the schedule attached. I have made a decision to grant all of the records falling within the scope of your request. With regard to Record 2, the redacted part concerns a separate issue and thus only the two first paragraphs form part of the record for the purpose of your request.

The Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade has underlined to the Egyptian authorities the Government’s strong desire to see this young Irish citizen released by the Egyptian authorities as soon as possible so that he can return to his family and his studies in Dublin; and our strong desire to ensure our citizen’s welfare for as long as he remains in detention.

The Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade will continue to provide consular support in the run up to the next scheduled hearing on 3 June, and to take all appropriate action that is in his best interests.

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 foi@dfa.ie. 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 foi@dfa.ie 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 staff of this Department.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read 'A. Sheils', is written above a horizontal line.

Amy Sheils
Responding Officer