



An Roinn Gnóthaí Eachtracha agus Trádála  
Baile Átha Cliath 2

Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade  
Dublin 2

17<sup>th</sup> May 2016

Colin Gleeson  
The Irish Times

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Our Ref: FOI/Req/16/ 050

Dear Mr. Gleeson,

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

**A copy of all correspondence – both paper based and electronic – between the Department of Foreign Affairs and the Department of the Taoiseach containing any reference to Ibrahim Halawa since his detention in August 2013.**

I refer also to the acknowledgement of your request which was sent to you on 27 April 2016.

I have identified 59 records that fall within the scope of your request. The records are listed in the schedule attached.

I have made a decision to refuse all of the records in accordance with section 30(1)(c) of the Act on that basis that access to the records concerned could reasonably be expected to disclose positions taken, or to be taken, or plans, procedures, criteria or instructions used or followed for the purpose of negotiations carried on or being, or to be, carried on by or on behalf of the Department in relation to this highly sensitive consular case. On balance, the public interest rests in not releasing these records at this point in time.

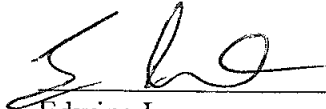
#### **Right of Appeal**

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@dfat.ie](mailto:foi@dfat.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@dfat.ie](mailto:foi@dfat.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 the staff of this Department.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Edwina Love', written over a horizontal line.

Edwina Love  
Consular Division