



Australian Government

Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade

FOI Reference: LEX7071

File No: 22/25249

February 2023

Mr Alex Pentland

By email: foi+request-9790-e82950ex@xxxxxxxxxxx.xxx.xx

Dear Mr Pentland

Re. Freedom of Information Request

I am writing to give you a decision regarding your request to access documents under the *Freedom of Information Act 1982 (Cth)* (FOI Act).

On 11 January 2023, you requested access to:

- (1) Any departmental talking points prepared in relation to this issue between December 1, 2022, to today regarding the recognition of the President of Venezuela*
- (2) Any Whole of Government talking points provided by DFAT to other agencies between December 1, 2022, to today regarding the recognition of the President of Venezuela*
- (3) Any talking points provided to Ministers or Ministerial offices (including the Prime Minister or PMO) in relation to this decision between December 1, 2022, to today regarding the recognition of the President of Venezuela*

I am authorised under section 23 of the FOI Act to make decisions in relation to FOI requests, and I have been appointed to be the decision-maker on your request.

Searches conducted by the department found no documents relevant to your request. I am therefore unable to meet your request in accordance with the provisions of section 24A(1)(b)(ii) of the FOI Act, as the department holds no documents relevant to it.

Please find attached your review rights for your reference.

Should you have any queries regarding this matter please contact the FOI and Privacy Law Section by email to: foi@dfat.gov.au

Yours sincerely

Amanda Riethmuller
A/g Director
FOI Law Section

Your review rights

Internal review

You may apply for internal review of the decision ([section 54 of the FOI Act](#)). The internal review application must be made within 30 days of the date of receipt of this letter.

Where possible, please attach reasons why you believe review of the decision is necessary. The internal review will be carried out by another officer within 30 days.

Any request for internal review should be directed via email to foi@dfat.gov.au or addressed to:

Freedom of Information Law Section
Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade
R G Casey Building
John McEwen Crescent
Barton ACT 0221
Australia

Australian Information Commissioner

You may apply within 60 days of the date of receipt of this letter to the Australian Information Commissioner to review my decision ([section 54L of the FOI Act](#)).

You may also make a complaint to the Australian Information Commissioner about the Department's actions in relation to this decision ([section 70 of the FOI Act](#)). Making such a complaint about the way the Department has handled your FOI request is a separate process to seeking review of my decision.

Further information on applying for an Australian Information Commissioner review is available at: <https://www.oaic.gov.au/freedom-of-information/foi-review-process>

Further information about how to make a complaint is available at: <http://www.oaic.gov.au/freedom-of-information/foi-complaints>