



Home Office

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FOI: 45026
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Thank you for your e-mail of 14 August, in which you raise questions about immigration recommendations and actions taken against suspected and/or identified war criminals in the UK. You ask specifically:

"I would ask that you can look at the period January 2010 to 2016, and itemize by year as well as including totals for the whole 6 year period for each of the requests.

1. *Since January 2010 to 2016 how many individuals have been subject to 'adverse recommendations' by immigration staff due to suspicions that they are suspected war criminals?*
2. *How many of these suspects since 2010 have since been deported (by year, with to-date total)?*
3. *How many individuals identified as war criminals were turned away by border controls each year 2010 – 2016?*
4. *How many such individuals identified as war criminals, have been deported from the UK (by year) between 2010-2016?*
5. *How many of those identified as suspected war criminals from January 2010-2016 had their cases passed on to the police with a view to possible prosecution? (by year).*
6. *Please can you itemize which countries those identified as suspected war criminals between 2010-2016 are alleged to have committed their crimes."*

Your request has been handled as a request for information under the Freedom of Information Act 2000.

I am able to disclose some of the information that you requested, as set out in the enclosed Annex.

However, under section 12 of the Act, the Home Office is not obliged to comply with an information request where to do so would exceed the cost limit.

We may hold the information which you have requested but we have estimated that the cost of meeting your request would exceed the cost limit of £600 specified in the Freedom of Information and Data Protection (Appropriate Limit and Fees) Regulations 2004. We are therefore unable to comply with it.

The cost of locating, retrieving, assessing and then where possible extracting all the information you require is included in the cost estimate for these purposes. The costs do not include considering whether the information is exempt from disclosure or overheads.

The general policy of the Home Office is not to disclose, to a third party, personal information about another person. This is because we have obligations under the Data Protection Act and in law generally to protect this information. Your request for personal information has been considered in line with our obligations under the Freedom of Information (FOI) Act. However, we have concluded that the information you have requested is exempt from disclosure under section 40(2) of the FOI Act. This exempts personal data if disclosure would breach any of the data protection principles.

As detailed in the accompanying annex, some questions can be answered in full, some part answered and some not at all as per the cost and data protection exemption criteria. If you are dissatisfied with this response you may request an independent internal review of our handling of your request by submitting a complaint within two months to FOIRequests@homeoffice.gsi.gov.uk, quoting reference **45026**. If you ask for an internal review, it would be helpful if you could say why you are dissatisfied with the response.

As part of any internal review the Department's handling of your information request will be reassessed by staff who were not involved in providing you with this response. If you remain dissatisfied after this internal review, you would have a right of complaint to the Information Commissioner as established by section 50 of the Freedom of Information Act.

Yours sincerely

Freedom of Information
Home Office

Annex

1. *Since January 2010 to 2016 how many individuals have been subject to 'adverse recommendations' by immigration staff due to suspicions that they are suspected war criminals?*

817 individuals have been subject to 'adverse recommendations'. However this figure also relates to associations with war crimes, responsible for war crimes, crimes against humanity and genocide. This group does not break down further by crime type.

2. *How many of these suspects since 2010 have since been deported (by year, with to-date total)?*

The cost exemption under section 12 applies to this question. Of the initial 817 adverse recommendations that may have occurred regarding those cases, some may well have then been overturned at appeal, and/or dealt with by a number of HO directorates. In order to try and retrieve that data we would exceed the cost limit. However we are able to provide the deportation figures specifically relating to 'responsible for war crimes/crimes against humanity' as set out at point 4 below.

3. *How many individuals identified as war criminals were turned away by border controls each year 2010 – 2016?*

We do not hold this information.

4. *How many such individuals identified as war criminals, have been deported from the UK (by year) between 2010-2016?*

Accessing the figures for removals of war criminals prior to June 2012 would exceed the cost limit. Prior to 2012 war crimes cases were handled by what was UK Border Agency and to try and access that data would exceed the cost limit. However we can tell you the total number of war criminals removed from the UK between 2012-2016 was 8

(2012 = 1) (2013 = 0) (2014 = 2) (2015=3) (2016 = 2)

5. *How many of those identified as suspected war criminals from January 2010-2016 had their cases passed on to the police with a view to possible prosecution? (by year).*

(2010 = 15) (2011 = 4) (2012 = 1) (2013 = 0) (2014 = 3) (2015 = 0) (2016 = 7)

6. *Please can you itemize which countries those identified as suspected war criminals between 2010-2016 are alleged to have committed their crimes."*

In order to comply with data protection and the handling of personal data we do not break this down into yearly assessments. Between 2010-2016 the list of nationalities included: Afghanistan, DRC, Eritrea, Iran, Iraq, Libya, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Syria and Zimbabwe.