

## Right2Info Chart – Foreigners’ Right to Information

COUNTRY	Everyone, Any Person	Only Citizens & Residents	Only Citizens	Others
<b>AFRICA</b>				
<b>Angola</b>	Everyone. <sup>1</sup>			
<b>Ethiopia</b>	Everyone. <sup>2</sup>			
<b>Guinea</b>	Every person, irrespective of nationality or profession, can request and obtain information wherever without having to justify the purpose of the information. <sup>3</sup>			
<b>Liberia</b>	Any individual, partnership, corporation, joint venture, trust, estate, un-incorporated entity, government or any juridical entity. <sup>4</sup> Everyone. <sup>5</sup>			
<b>Nigeria</b>	Any person. <sup>6</sup>			
<b>South Africa</b>	The people of South Africa. <sup>7</sup> Any person. <sup>8</sup>			

<sup>1</sup> Law on Access to Administrative Documents, No. 11/02, 2002, Article 7(1)

<sup>2</sup> Ethiopian Constitution, Article 29(2)

<sup>3</sup> Organic Law L 2010/004/CNT on The Right of Access to Public Information, Article 1

<sup>4</sup> Freedom of Information Act of 2010, 1.3.4.

<sup>5</sup> Freedom of Information Act of 2010, 1.4.b.

<sup>6</sup> Freedom of Information Act, 2011, Article 2(1)

	Everyone. <sup>9</sup>			
<b>Uganda</b>			Every citizen. <sup>10</sup>	
<b>Zimbabwe</b>		Any citizen or resident. Unregistered media agencies and foreign gov'ts are excluded. <sup>11</sup>		
<b>Subtotal - 8</b>				

<b>AMERICAS</b>				
<b>Antigua &amp; Barbuda</b>	Any person. Every person. <sup>12</sup>			
<b>Argentina</b>			Every citizen is entitled to request public information. <sup>13</sup>	
<b>Belize</b>	Every person. <sup>14</sup>			
<b>Brazil</b>	Any person. <sup>15</sup>			
<b>Canada</b>		Canadian citizens and all individuals and corporations present in Canada. <sup>16</sup>		

<sup>7</sup> Claase v Information Officer of South African Airways [2006] SCA 163 (RSA). The Supreme Court of Appeal of South Africa. Available at: <http://www.ufs.ac.za/apps/law/appeal/files/2006/4/886Claase.pdf>

<sup>8</sup> Promotion of Access to Information Act, 2000, §1

<sup>9</sup> Constitution of the Republic of South Africa, 1996, Article 32(1)

<sup>10</sup> Part II, Article 5, Uganda Law. The Access to Information Act (2005). Acts Supplement to the Uganda Gazette, No. 42 Volume XCVIII, 19 July 2005. Available at: [http://www.freedominfo.org/documents/uganda\\_ati\\_act\\_2005.pdf](http://www.freedominfo.org/documents/uganda_ati_act_2005.pdf)

<sup>11</sup> Part II, Article 5, Zimbabwe Law No. 5 Chapter 10:27. The Access to Information and Protection of Privacy Amendment Act (2003). Forthcoming amendments available at: <http://www.kubatana.net/docs/legisl/aippaamd030611.pdf>

<sup>12</sup> The Freedom of Information Act, 2004, Part III, Section 15(1)

<sup>13</sup> Article 6, *Presidential Decree Enacted Freedom of Information in the Executive Branch*. Data Protection Laws website, 30 December 2003. Available at: <http://www.dataprotectionlaws.com.ar/blog/2003/12/30/presidential-decree-enacted-freedom-of-information-in-the-executive-branch/>

<sup>14</sup> Freedom of Information Act, 1994, Article 9

<sup>15</sup> Access to Information Law, 2011, at Chapter III, Section I, Article 10

<sup>16</sup> Canada ATI Act, Art 4(1) and (2)

<b>Cayman Islands</b>	Request may be made under pseudonym. <sup>17</sup>			
<b>Chile</b>	Everyone. <sup>18</sup>			
<b>Columbia</b>	Every person. <sup>19</sup>			
<b>Dominican Republic</b>	Any person. <sup>20</sup>			
<b>Ecuador</b>	People. <sup>21</sup>			
<b>El Salvador</b>	Everyone. <sup>22</sup>			
<b>Guatemala</b>	Every person. <sup>23</sup> Any individual or legal person. <sup>24</sup> All persons. <sup>25</sup>			
<b>Jamaica</b>	Members of the public. Every person. <sup>26</sup>			
<b>Mexico</b>	Any one. <sup>27</sup>		“Any citizen may request from the Federal Electoral Institute information concerning the use of public resources given to political parties and national	

<sup>17</sup> Freedom of Information (General) Regulations, 2008, Schedule 1

<sup>18</sup> Transparency of Public Office and Access to Information of the State Administration Law, 2008, Article 10

<sup>19</sup> Law Ordering the Publicity of Official Acts and Documents, 1985, Article 12

<sup>20</sup> General Free Access to Public Information Law, 2004, Article 1

<sup>21</sup> Organic Law of Transparency and Access to Public Information, 2004, Article 2; Constitution of the Republic of Ecuador, 2008, Chapter 1, Article 10

<sup>22</sup> Law for Access to Public Information, 2010, Article 2

<sup>23</sup> Law of Access to Public Information, 2008, Article 1

<sup>24</sup> Law of Access to Public Information, 2008, Article 3

<sup>25</sup> Law of Access to Public Information, 2008, Article 13

<sup>26</sup> The Access to Information Act, 2002, Part II, Article 6(1)

<sup>27</sup> Federal Transparency and Access to Public Government Information Law, 2002, at Chapter I, Article 4(I)

			political groupings.” <sup>28</sup>	
<b>Nicaragua</b>	Any person, with no discrimination whatsoever [...]. <sup>29</sup>			
<b>Panama</b>	Any person. <sup>30</sup>			
<b>Paraguay</b>	The people. <sup>31</sup> Everyone. <sup>32</sup>			
<b>Peru</b>	All persons. Every individual. <sup>33</sup>			
<b>St. Vincent and the Grenadines</b>	Every person. <sup>34</sup>			
<b>Trinidad &amp; Tobago</b>	Any person. <sup>35</sup> Members of the public.			
<b>Uruguay</b>	Every person, without discrimination due to the nationality [...]. <sup>36</sup>			
<b>USA</b>	Any person <sup>37</sup> or org, regardless of country of origin or citizenship.			
<b>Subtotal - 22</b>				

<b>ASIA &amp; PACIFIC</b>				
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<sup>28</sup> Federal Transparency and Access to Public Government Information Law, 2002, at Chapter II, Article 11

<sup>29</sup> Law on Access to Public Information, 2007, Articles 3 and 27

<sup>30</sup> Law on Transparency in Public Administration, 2002, Article 1(2) and (9), Article 2

<sup>31</sup> Constitution, 1992, Article 28(1)

<sup>32</sup> Constitution, 1992, Article 28(2)

<sup>33</sup> Political Constitution of Peru, 1993, at Chapter I, Article 2

<sup>34</sup> Freedom of Information Act, 2003, Article 10

<sup>35</sup> Freedom of Information Act, 1997, Part III, Article 11(1)

<sup>36</sup> Law 18,381 (notified in 2008), Article 3

<sup>37</sup> Freedom of Information Act, 1966, Article 3(a)

<b>Australia</b>	The Australian community. <sup>38</sup> Every person has a legally enforceable right to obtain access. <sup>39</sup>			
<b>Bangladesh</b>			Every citizen. <sup>40</sup>	
<b>China</b>			Citizens, legal persons and other organizations <sup>41</sup>	
<b>India</b>			All citizens. <sup>42</sup>	
<b>Indonesia</b>			Public Information Applicant means an Indonesian citizen and/or an Indonesian corporation that applies for Public Information as regulated in this law. <sup>43</sup> The right of the citizens. <sup>44</sup>	
<b>Japan</b>	Any person. <sup>45</sup> Any individual or company, both Japanese and foreign.			
<b>Nepal</b>			Every citizen. <sup>46</sup>	

<sup>38</sup> Freedom of information Act 1982, Part I, §3(1).

<sup>39</sup> Freedom of information Act 1982, Part III, §11(1).

<sup>40</sup> Right to Information Act, 2009, at Chapter II, Article 4

<sup>41</sup> Art. 1, Regulations on Disclosure of Government Information 2007

<sup>42</sup> Right to Information Act, 2005, at Chapter II, Article 3

<sup>43</sup> Public Information Disclosure Act, No. 14, adopted April 30, 2008, at Chapter I, Chapter 1, Article 1(12)

<sup>44</sup> Public Information Disclosure Act, No. 14, adopted April 30, 2008, at Chapter II, Chapter 2, Article 3

<sup>45</sup> Law Concerning Access to Information Held by Administrative Orgns, 1999, Article 3

<sup>46</sup> Right to Information Act, 2007, and Right to Information Rule, 2009, at Chapter 2, Article 3

<b>New Zealand</b>		Any citizen, resident or company in New Zealand. <sup>47</sup>		
<b>Pakistan</b>			Any citizen. <sup>48</sup>	
<b>Philippines</b>			Citizen. <sup>49</sup>	
<b>South Korea</b>			The people. <sup>50</sup> Citizens. A separate decree allows access by companies with an office in Korea and resident foreigners.	
<b>Taiwan</b>				Reciprocity: Foreigners are allowed access only if their parent countries give similar access rights to Taiwanese. <sup>51</sup>
<b>Tajikistan</b>			Citizens, state bodies, organizations and associations. <sup>52</sup>	
<b>Thailand</b>			Citizens. (The extent to which an alien may enjoy the right under this section shall be provided	

<sup>47</sup> Official Information Act, 1982, Part 2, Article 12(1A)

<sup>48</sup> Freedom of Information Ordinance, 2002, Article 12

<sup>49</sup> Constitution, 1987, Article III, Section 7

<sup>50</sup> Act on Disclosure of Information by Public Agencies, 1996, Article 6

<sup>51</sup> The Freedom of Government Information Law, 2005, at Chapter 3, Article 9

<sup>52</sup> Law on the Right to Access to Information, 2008, at Chapter 1, Article 1

			by the Ministerial Regulation. <sup>53)</sup>	
<b>Uzbekistan</b>	Each individual. Limitation of the right to [access to] information based on distinction of [...] national origin, [...] shall be inapplicable. <sup>54)</sup>			
<b>Subtotal - 15</b>				

<sup>53)</sup> Official Information Act, 1997, Sections 4 and 9

<sup>54)</sup> Law on Principles and Guarantees for Freedom of Information, 1997, Article 8

EUROPE				
<b>Albania</b>	Everyone. Any person. <sup>55</sup>			
<b>Armenia</b>	Everyone has the right, regardless of citizenship or residency. <sup>56</sup>			
<b>Austria</b>	Anyone. <sup>57</sup>			
<b>Azerbaijan</b>	Everyone. <sup>58</sup>			
<b>Belgium</b>	Any person. <sup>59</sup>			
<b>Bosnia &amp; Herzegovina</b>	Any person or legal entity, <sup>60</sup> both in and outside of Bosnia.			
<b>Bulgaria</b>	Any person or legal entity. <sup>61</sup>			
<b>Croatia</b>	Any domestic or foreign physical or legal person. <sup>62</sup>			
<b>Czech</b>	Everybody. Any natural			

<sup>55</sup> Law No. 8503, date 30.6.1999, on the Right to Information over the Official Documents. Articles 2-3

<sup>56</sup> Law of the Republic of Armenia on the Freedom of Information, 2003, Article 6(2)

<sup>57</sup> Fundamental Act on the Duty to Grant Information, 1987, § 2

<sup>58</sup> Law of the Republic of Azerbaijan on the Right to Obtain Information, 2004, Article 2(2)

<sup>59</sup> Law on the Right of Access to Administrative Documents held by Federal Public Authorities, 1994, 2000, at Chapter II, Article 2(2)

<sup>60</sup> Freedom of Access to Information Act for the Federation of Bosnia and Herzegovina, 2001, Article 4

<sup>61</sup> Access to Public Information Act, 2005, Article 4(2)

<sup>62</sup> The Act on the Right of Access to Information, 2003, Article 3.

<b>Republic</b>	or legal person. <sup>63</sup>			
<b>Denmark</b>	Any person. <sup>64</sup>			
<b>Estonia</b>	The public and every person. <sup>65</sup> All persons. <sup>66</sup>			
<b>Finland</b>	Every person. <sup>67</sup>			
<b>France</b>	All persons. <sup>68</sup>			
<b>Georgia</b>	Anyone. <sup>69</sup>			
<b>Germany</b>	Everyone. <sup>70</sup>			
<b>Greece</b>	Any interested party. Any person having special legal interest. <sup>71</sup>			
<b>Hungary</b>	Everyone, including people otherwise legally incapable of suing or being sued, is entitled to be a party to an FOI suit. <sup>72</sup>			
<b>Iceland</b>	Individuals, including non-residents, and legal entities. The public. <sup>73</sup>			

<sup>63</sup> Law on Free Access to Information, 1993, Article 3(1)

<sup>64</sup> The Danish Access to Public Administrative Documents Act, 1985, Part 2(1)

<sup>65</sup> Public Information Act, 2000, Article 1

<sup>66</sup> Public Information Act, 2000, Article 4

<sup>67</sup> Act on the Openness of Government Activities, 1999, at Chapter 3, Section 9

<sup>68</sup> Freedom of Access to Administrative Documents and Reuse of Public Information, 1978, Article 1

<sup>69</sup> The General Administrative Code of Georgia, 2000, Article 37

<sup>70</sup> Federal Act Governing Access to Information Held by the Federal Government, 2005, Section 1(1)

<sup>71</sup> Administrative Procedure Code, 1999, at First Chapter, Article 5(1-2)

<sup>72</sup> Act LXIII of 1992 on the Protection of Personal Data and the Publicity of Data of Public Interest at Chapter I, Section 1(1).

<sup>73</sup> Information Act, No. 50/1996, at Chapter 1, Article 3

<b>Ireland</b>	Every person. <sup>74</sup>			
<b>Italy</b>				Any person who has an interest to safeguard in legally relevant situations. <sup>75</sup>
<b>Kosovo</b>	“every natural and legal person to have access, without discrimination on any grounds [...]” <sup>76</sup> “The applicant of a document - any natural or legal person, without discrimination on any grounds, under principles and conditions established by the present Law and other Law (hereinafter ‘the applicant’).” <sup>77</sup>			
<b>Latvia</b>	Article 100 gives everyone the right. Any private person (natural or legal). <sup>78</sup>			
<b>Liechtenstein</b>	Individuals. Informing the population. <sup>79</sup>			
<b>Lithuania</b>		Citizens, citizens of a member state of the European Economic Area Agreement, an		

<sup>74</sup> Freedom of Information Act, 1997, Article 6(1)

<sup>75</sup> Law No. 241/90 on administrative procedure and the right of access to administrative documents at Chapter V, Article 22 (1).

<sup>76</sup> Law on Access to Public Documents, 2010, at Chapter I, Article 1

<sup>77</sup> Law on Access to Public Documents, 2010, at Chapter I, Article 3(1.4)

<sup>78</sup> Section 10(3), Latvia Freedom of Information Act (1998). Available at: <http://www.eps.gov.lv/files/juridiskabaze/IAL.doc>

<sup>79</sup> Law on Public Information, 1999, at Chapter I, Article 1(1)

		alien with a residence permit in Lithuania, or a group of such individuals; also legal persons and other entities of Lithuania, registered in a member state of the EEA agreement, or their agencies and branches established in Lithuania. <sup>80</sup>		
<b>Macedonia</b>	Any natural or legal person. <sup>81</sup>			
<b>Moldova</b>	Any person. <sup>82</sup>			
<b>Montenegro</b>	Any natural or legal person. <sup>83</sup>			
<b>Netherlands</b>	Any person. <sup>84</sup>			
<b>Norway</b>	Everyone. Any person. <sup>85</sup>			
<b>Poland</b>	Each person. <sup>86</sup>			
<b>Portugal</b>			Citizens. <sup>87</sup>	
<b>Romania</b>	Any person. <sup>88</sup>			

<sup>80</sup> Law on the Right to Obtain Information from State and Municipal Agencies, Article 2(6)

<sup>81</sup> Law on Free Access to Information of Public Character, 2006, Article 4

<sup>82</sup> Moldova ATI Law 2000, Art. 4(1).

<sup>83</sup> The Law on Free Access to Information, 2005, Article 1

<sup>84</sup> Act of 31 October 1991, containing Regulations Governing Public Access to Government Information, Section 3

<sup>85</sup> The Freedom of Information Act, 1970, § 2

<sup>86</sup> Act on Access to Public Information, 6 September 2001, at Chapter 1, Article 2(1)

<sup>87</sup> Law of Access to Administrative Documents, 1993, at Chapter I, Article 1

<sup>88</sup> Law on Free Access to Information of Public Interest, No. 544, 12 October 2001, at Chapter I, Article 1

<b>Russia</b>			Citizens and legal entities. <sup>89</sup>	
<b>Serbia</b>	Everyone. <sup>90</sup> Any person. It is irrelevant whether the applicant is a Serbian or foreign national, as well as whether his or her permanent or temporary residence is in Serbia or not. <sup>91</sup>			
<b>Slovakia</b>	Everybody shall have the right. <sup>92</sup> Any person or organization.			
<b>Slovenia</b>	Everyone. <sup>93</sup> Legal entities or natural persons. <sup>94</sup>			
<b>Spain</b>			Citizens. <sup>95</sup>	
<b>Sweden</b>		Every Swedish subject and resident.		
<b>Switzerland</b>	Every person. <sup>96</sup> Any person.			
<b>Turkey</b>			Citizens and legal persons. Foreigners also have a right to	

<sup>89</sup> Russia ATI Law, Art. 1(3).

<sup>90</sup> Law on Free Access to Information of Public Importance, 2004, Articles 5-6

<sup>91</sup> II.5. Who has the Right to Access Information? "A Guide on the Law of Free Access to Information." Available at: [http://www.poverenik.org.yu/Dokumentacija/eng\\_22\\_ldok.pdf](http://www.poverenik.org.yu/Dokumentacija/eng_22_ldok.pdf)

<sup>92</sup> Act on Free Access to Information and Amendments of Certain Acts (The Freedom of Information Act), §3; Constitution, 1992, Articles 12 and 26

<sup>93</sup> Constitution, 1991, Articles 14 and 39

<sup>94</sup> Access to Public Information Act, 2005, Article 5

<sup>95</sup> Law 30/1992 of 26 November on the Legal Regime of Public Administrations and Common Administrative Procedure, at Title IV., Chapter I., Article 37

<sup>96</sup> Federal Act on the Principle of Freedom of Information in Public Administration, 2004, Section 2, Article 6(1)

			information related to their interests if the country they are from allows Turkish citizens the similar privilege. <sup>97</sup>	
<b>Ukraine</b>			All citizens of Ukraine, juridical persons and governmental bodies have the right. <sup>98</sup>	
<b>United Kingdom</b>	Any person. <sup>99</sup> "Person" includes a body of persons corporate or unincorporate. <sup>100</sup>			
<b>Subtotal - 42</b>				

<sup>97</sup> Turkish Law on the Right to Information, Law 4982, 2003, Part 2, Article 4

<sup>98</sup> Section 1, Article 9, Ukraine Law No. 2658-XII. Law of Ukraine on Information (1992). Available at: <http://www.archives.gov.ua/Eng/Law-base/Legislations1991-1994.php#03>

<sup>99</sup> Freedom of Information Act, 2000, Article 1

<sup>100</sup> Interpretation Act, 1978, Schedule 1

MIDDLE EAST				
Israel		Every Israeli citizen and resident. <sup>101</sup> The law also applies to non-citizens in regards to info concerning his or her rights in Israel. <sup>102</sup>		
Jordan			Every Jordanian. <sup>103</sup>	
Subtotal - 2				

TOTAL				
89	29	4	11	2

<sup>101</sup> Freedom of Information Law, 5758-1998, §1.

<sup>102</sup> Freedom of Information Law, 5758-1998, §12.

<sup>103</sup> Access to Information Law, 2007, Article 7