

# FRINGE SPECIAL

\* Fringe: biweekly journals with intelligence and freedom of information news \*

\* More information in the colophon at the bottom of this special \*

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\* Sep 30 2012 \*

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## Overview of all FOI laws<sup>©</sup>

**93 national FOIAs  
180 sub-national FOIAs  
&  
3 international FOIAs**

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>> Lists and statistics are ways of lying <<

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## **Working definition of a FOIA**

One of the problems editing this Overview is that there is no good definition of a FOIA. The working definition I use includes: it has to be a law in strict sense, it must include the right of access to information, this right has to be enforceable and there must be complaint, court and high court appeal possibilities. [Decrees are included if they meet the same standards.]

As a consequence this overview contains all kinds of FOIAs, including poor ones like those of for instance Italy and Zimbabwe.

A second important part of the definition, and in line with the practitioner's point of view, is that the FOIA must be **in power** for at least the executive part of the trias politica.

As a consequence a FOIA which is only adopted or approved or is still a draft will be listed in the B-section of this overview.

I would like to add more ingredients to the definition. For instance I would like to skip FOIAs which require a special interest or FOIAs which charge for processing requests, or more in general FOIAs which do not meet international standards like the Aarhus and Tromsø Treaties.or international jurisprudence.

## **National and sub-national FOIAs**

All non-national/non-federal FOIAs are seen in this list as sub-national, even if they are of a country in legal sense like Aruba or Scotland.

The country definition in this overview is broader than the UN or US definition, for instance Kosovo and Palestine are included.

From a litigation point of view country is quite a complex concept. Some national FOIAs override sub-national ones, some sub-national ones are a lex specialis except for some topics, some sub-national countries do have an own court system except for the high court appeals, etc. The situation in for instance Canada, Mexico, Netherlands and UK is almost not comparable.

## **Tips very welcome**

Do you have suggestions for improvement, corrections or other remarks, please mail so that I can use them in the next update of this overview.

**The A1.1 list****The national FOIAs in alphabetical order**

<b>Countries</b>				Year of formal approval or formal adoption of the FOIA
				Year in which the FOIA came in power
				Year of latest FOIA revision
				Name of the FOIA, in English
				Name of the FOIA, in native tongue
Albania	1999	1999		Law on right to information for official documents
Angola		2002	2006	Law on right to information for official documents
Antigua/Barbuda	2004	2004		Access to administrative documents
Argentina	2002	2004		Access to administrative documents
Freedom of information act				Freedom of information act
Freedom of information act				Freedom of information act
Freedom of information act				Freedom of information act
Acceso a la informacion publica				Freedom of information act
Armenia	2003	2003		Law on freedom of information
Australia	1982	1982	2009	Law on freedom of information
Austria	1987	1987	2005	Freedom of information act
Azerbaijan	2005	2005		Freedom of information act
Bangladesh	2008	2009		Federal law on the duty to furnish information
Belgium	1994	1994	2000	Auskunftspflichtsgesetz
Belize	1994	1994		Law on access to information
Bosnia & Herzegovina	2001	2002		İnformasiyanın əldə eilməsi haqda qanun
Brazil	2011	2012		Right to information act
Bulgaria	2000	2000		Tatha adhikar ain
Canada	1982	1983	2006	Law on the right of access to administrative documents ...
Chile	2008	2009		Wob: Wet openbaarheid van bestuur
China	2007	2008		Freedom of information act
Colombia	1985	1985	1998	Freedom of information act
Cook Islands		2009		Access to information bill
Croatia	2003	2003		Regula o acesso informacoes
Czech Republic	1999	2000	2006	APIA: Access to public information act
Denmark	1970	1970	2009	ЗДОИ:Закон за достъп до обществена информация
Dominican Republic	2004	2004		Access to information act
Ecuador	2004	2004		Access to information act
El Salvador	2010	2011		Law of transparency of the public function and access ...
Estonia	2000	2001	2009	Ley de transparencia de la función pública y de acceso ...
Ethiopia	2010	2010		Open government information regulations
Finland	1951	1951	2009	Zhengfu xinxi gongkai tiaoli
				Law ordering the publicity of official acts and documents
				Law ordering the publicity of official acts and documents
				Act on the right of access to information
				Act on the right of access to information
				Law on free access to information
				Law on free access to information
				Access to public administration files act
				Lov om offentlighed i forvaltningen
				Law on access to information
				Law on access to information
				Organic law on transparency and access to public info
				Organic law on transparency and access to public info
				Ley de acceso a la información pública
				Ley de acceso a la información pública
				Public information act
				Avaliku teabe seadus
				Freedom of the mass media and access to information
				Freedom of the mass media and access to information
				Act on the openness of government activities
				Laki viranomaisten toiminnan julkisuudesta

France	1978	1978	2010	Law on freedom of access to administrative documents Loi de la liberté d'accès aux documents administratifs
Georgia	1999	2000	2001	General administrative code chapter III, freedom of inform. General administrative code chapter III, freedom of inform.
Germany	2005	2006		Federal act governing access to information Informationfreiheitsgesetz
Greece	1986	1986	1999	Code of administrative procedure Code of administrative procedure
Guatemala	2008	2009		Law for free access to public information Law for free access to public information
Guinea [Conakry]		2010		Organic law on the right of access to public information Organic law on the right of access to public information
Honduras		2006		Transparency and Access to Public Information Law Ley de Transparencia y Acceso a la Información Pública
Hungary	1992	1992	2010	Act on the protection of pers. data and public access to.. A személyes adatok védelméről és a közérdekű adatok...
Iceland	1996	1997	2010	Information act Upplýsingalög
India	2005	2005		RTI: Right to information act RTI: Right to information act
Indonesia	2008	2010		Freedom of information law Freedom of information law
Ireland	1997	1998	2003	Freedom of information act Freedom of information act
Israel	1998	1999	2009	Freedom of Information Law ה'תשן המידע חופש ויק
Italy	1990	1990	2005	Law on administrative procedure and the right of access ... Legge in materia di procedimento amministrativo e di ...
Jamaica	2002	2004	2004	Access to information act Access to information act
Japan	1999	2001	2003	Law concerning access to information Law concerning access to information
Jordan	2007	2007		Access to information law Access to information law
Kosovo	2003	2003		Law on access to official documents Law on access to official documents
Kyrgyzstan		2007		Access to information law Access to information law
Latvia	1998	1998	2006	Law on freedom of information Law on freedom of information
Liberia		2010		Freedom of information act Freedom of information act
Liechtenstein	1999	2000		Information act Informationsgesetz
Lithuania	2000	2000	2005	Law on the provision of information to the public Law on the provision of information to the public
Macedonia	2006	2006	2010	Law on free access to information of public character Zakon za sloboden pristap do informacii od javen karakter
Malta	2008	2012		Freedom of information act Freedom of information act
Mexico	2002	2003	2006	Fed. transparency and access to publ. govt. information law Ley fed. de transparencia y acceso a la información public...
Moldova	2000	2000	2003	Law on access to information Legea privind accesul la informatie
Mongolia	2011	2011		Law on the information transparency and the right to info. Law on the information transparency and the right to info.
Montenegro	2005	2005		Law on free access to information Law on free access to information
Nepal		2007	2009	Right to Information Act 2007 Suchanako haksambandhi Ain 2064 / সুচনাকो হক্সম্বন্ধী এন ২০৬৪
Netherlands	1978	1980	2009	Wob: Act on public access to government information Wob: Wet openbaarheid van bestuur
New Zealand	1982	1983	2003	Official information act Official information act
Nicaragua		2007		Law on Access to Public Information Ley de Acceso a la Información Pública

Niger		2011		Charter on access to public and administrative documents
Nigeria		2011		Charter on access to public and administrative documents
				Freedom of information law
				Freedom of information law
Norway	1970	1970	2006	Freedom of information law Offentlighetsloven
Pakistan	2002	2002		Freedom of information ordinance
Panama	2001	2002		Freedom of information ordinance
				Law on transparency in public administration
Peru	2002	2003	2003	Law on transparency in public administration
Poland	2001	2002		Law of transparency and access to public information
				Ley Transparencia y Acceso a la Información Pública
Portugal	1993	1993	1999	Law on access to public information
Romania	2001	2001	2007	Law on access to public information
Russia	2009	2010	2011	Law on access to administrative documents
				Law on access to administrative documents
Serbia	2004	2004	2007	Law on free access to public Information
Slovak Republic	2000	2001	2010	Legea privind liberul acces la informatiile de interes public
Slovenia	2003	2003	2010	Fed. law on providing access to information
				Fed. law on providing access to information
South Africa	2000	2001		Law on free access to information of public importance
South Korea	1996	1998	2004	Zakon o slobodnom pristupu informacijama od javnog ...
St Vincent & Grenadines		2003		Act on free access to information
Sweden	1766	1766	1976	Zakon o slobodnom pristupe k informaciam
				Access to public information act
Switzerland	2004	2006		Zakon o dostopu do informacij javnega značaja
Taiwan		2005		Promotion of access to information act
				Promotion of access to information act
Tajikistan	2002	2002		Act on disclosure of information by public agencies
Thailand	1997	1997		Act on disclosure of information by public agencies
Trinidad & Tobago	1999	2001		Freedom of information act
Tunisia	2011	2011		Freedom of information act
Turkey	2003	2004		Decree on access to administrative documents
				Decree on access to administrative documents
Uganda	2005	2006		Law on right to information
				Law on right to information
Ukraine	1992	1992	2011	Access to information act
United Kingdom	2000	2005		Access to information act
United States of America	1966	1967	2007	Law on information
				Law on information
Uruguay	2008	2009		Freedom of information act
				Freedom of information act
Uzbekistan	1997	1997	2003	Freedom of information act
				Freedom of information act
Yemen	2008	2012		Law on the right of access to public information
				Law on the right of access to public information
Zimbabwe	2002	2002	2007	Law on the principles and guarantees of FOI
				Law on the principles and guarantees of FOI
				Law of the right of access to information
				Law of the right of access to information
				Access to information and privacy protection act
				Access to information and privacy protection act

## The A1.2 list

## The national FOIAs in chronological order

<u>Ranking</u>		Year of formal approval or formal adoption of the FOIA <b>Year in which the FOIA came in power&lt;&lt;&lt; decisive for the ranking!!</b>			
	<u>Countries</u>			Year of latest FOIA revision	Name of the FOIA, in English
1	<b>Sweden</b>	1766	<b>1766</b>	1976	Freedom of the press act
2	Finland	1951	1951	2009	Act on the openness of government activities
3	United States	1966	1967	2007	Freedom of information act
4	Denmark Norway	1970 1970	1970 1970	2009 2006	Access to public administration files act Freedom of information act
6	France	1978	1978	2010	Law on freedom of access to administrative documents
7	Netherlands	1978	1980	2009	Wob: Act on public access to government information
8	Australia	1982	1982	2009	Freedom of information act
9	Canada New Zealand	1982 1982	1983 1983	2006 2003	Access to information act Official information act
11	Colombia	1985	1985	1998	Law ordering the publicity of official acts and documents
12	Greece	1986	1986	1999	Code of administrative procedure
13	Austria	1987	1987	2005	Federal law on the duty to furnish information
14	Italy	1990	1990	2005	Law on administrative procedure and the right of access ...
15	Hungary Ukraine	1992 1992	1992 1992	2010 2011	Act on the protection of pers. data and public access to.. Law on information
17	Portugal	1993	1993	1999	Law on access to administrative documents
18	Belgium Belize	1994 1994	1994 1994	2000	Law on the right of access to administrative documents ... Freedom of information act
20	Iceland Thailand Uzbekistan	1996 1997 1997	1997 1997 1997	2010 2010 2003	Information act Official information act Law on the principles and guarantees of FOI
23	Ireland Latvia South Korea	1997 1998 1996	1998 1998 1998	2003 2006 2004	Freedom of information act Law on freedom of information Act on disclosure of information by public agencies
26	Albania Israel	1999 1998	1999 1999	2009	Law on right to information for official documents Freedom of Information Law
28	Bulgaria Czech Republic Georgia Liechtenstein Lithuania Moldova	2000 1999 1999 1999 2000 2000	2000 2000 2000 2000 2000 2000	2006 2001 2001 2005 2005 2003	APIA: Access to public information act Law on free access to information General administrative code chapter III, Freedom of inform. Information act Law on the provision of information to the public Law on access to information
34	Estonia Japan Romania Slovak Republic South Africa Trinidad & Tobago	2000 1999 2001 2000 2000 1999	2001 2001 2001 2001 2001 2001	2009 2003 2007 2010	Public information act Law concerning access to information Law on free access to public Information Act on free access to information Promotion of access to information act Freedom of information act

40	Angola Bosnia & Herzegov. Pakistan Panama Poland Tajikistan Zimbabwe	2002 2001 2002 2001 2001 2002 2002	2006	Access to administrative documents Freedom of access to information act Freedom of information ordinance Law on transparency in public administration Law on access to public information Law on information Access to information and privacy protection act
47	Armenia Croatia Kosovo Mexico Peru Slovenia St Vincent & Grenad.	2003 2003 2003 2002 2002 2003 2003	2003 2003 2003 2003 2003 2003 2010	Law on freedom of information Act on the right of access to information Law on access to official documents Fed. transparency and access to publ. govt. information law Law of transparency and access to public information Access to public information act Freedom of information act
54	Antigua/Barbuda Argentine Dominican Republic Ecuador Jamaica Serbia Turkey	2004 2002 2004 2004 2002 2004 2003	2004 2004 2004 2004 2004 2004 2004	Freedom of information act Acceso a la informacion publica Law on access to information Organic Law on Transparency and Access to Public Info. Access to information act Law on free access to information of public interest Law on right to information
61	Azerbaijan India Montenegro Taiwan United Kingdom	2005 2005 2005 2005 2000	2005 2005 2005 2005 2005	Law on access to information RTI: Right to information act Law on free access to information Freedom of government information law Freedom of information act
66	Germany Honduras Macedonia Switzerland Uganda	2005 2006 2006 2004 2005	2006 2006 2006 2006 2006	Act to regulate access to federal government information Transparency and Access to Public Information Law Law on free access to information of public character Federal law on the principle of administrative transparency Access to information act
71	Jordan Kyrgyzstan Nepal Nicaragua	2007 2007 2007 2007	2007 2007 2007 2007	Access to information law Access to information law Right to Information Act 2007 Law on Access to Public Information
75	China	2007	2008	Open government information regulations
76	Bangladesh Chile Cook Islands Guatemala Uruguay	2008 2008 2009 2008 2008	2009 2009 2009 2009 2009	Right to information act Law of Transparency of the Public Function and Access ... Official information act Law for free access to public information Law on the right of access to public information
81	Ethiopia Guinea [Conakry] Indonesia Liberia Russia	2010 2010 2008 2010 2009	2010 2010 2010 2010 2010	Freedom of the mass media and access to information Organic law on the right of access to public information Freedom of information law Freedom of information act Fed. law on providing access to information
86	El Salvador Mongolia Niger Nigeria Tunisia	2010 2011 2011 2011 2011	2011 2011 2011 2011 2011	Ley de acceso a la información pública Law on the information transparency and the right to info. Charter on access to public and administrative documents Freedom of information law Decree on access to administrative documents
91	Brazil Malta Yemen	2011 2008 2008	2012 2012 2012	Access to information bill Freedom of information act Law of the right of access to information

## The A1.3 list

## The national FOIAs continent wise

### Countries

Year of formal approval or formal adoption of the FOIA

Year in which the FOIA came in power

Year of latest FOIA revision

Name of the FOIA, in English

### Africa

Angola		2002	2006	Access to administrative documents
Ethiopia	2010	2010		Freedom of the mass media and access to information
Liberia		2010		Freedom of information act
Niger		2011		Charter on access to public and administrative documents
Nigeria		2011		Freedom of information law
South Africa	2000	2001		Promotion of access to information act
Tunisia	2011	2011		Decree on access to administrative documents
Uganda	2005	2006		Access to information act
Zimbabwe	2002	2002		Access to information and privacy protection act

### The Americas [incl Caribbean]

Argentine	2002	2004		Freedom of information act
Antigua/Barbuda	2004	2004		Freedom of information act
Belize	1994	1994		Freedom of information act
Brazil	2011	2012		Access to information bill
Canada	1982	1983	2006	Access to information act
Chile	2008	2009		Law of Transparency of the Public Function and Access ...
Colombia	1985	1985	1998	Law ordering the publicity of official acts and documents
Dominican Republic	2004	2004		Law on access to information
Ecuador	2004	2004		Organic Law on Transparency and Access to Public Info.
El Salvador	2010	2011		Ley de acceso a la información pública
Guatemala	2008	2009		Law for free access to public information
Guinea [Conakry]		2010		Organic law on the right of access to public information
Honduras		2006		Transparency and Access to Public Information Law
Jamaica	2002	2004	2004	Access to information act
Mexico	2002	2003	2006	Fed. transparency and access to publ. govt. information law
Nicaragua		2007		Law on Access to Public Information
Panama	2001	2002		Law on transparency in public administration
Peru	2002	2003	2003	Law of transparency and access to public information
St Vincent & Grenadines		2003		Freedom of information act
Trinidad & Tobago	1999	2001		Freedom of information act
United States of America	1966	1967	2007	Freedom of information act
Uruguay	2008	2009		Law on the right of access to public information

### Asia [incl Middle-East]

Armenia	2003	2003		Law on freedom of information
Azerbaijan	2005	2005		Law on access to information
Bangladesh	2008	2009		Right to information act
China	2007	2008		Open government information regulations
Georgia	1999	2000	2001	General administrative code chapter III, Freedom of inform.
India	2005	2005		RTI: Right to information act
Indonesia	2008	2010		Freedom of information law
Israel	1998	1999	2009	Freedom of Information Law
Japan	1999	2001	2003	Law concerning access to information
Jordan	2007	2007		Access to information law
Kyrgyzstan		2007		Access to information law
Mongolia	2011	2011		Law on the information transparency and the right to info.
Nepal		2007	2009	Right to Information Act 2007
Pakistan	2002	2002		Freedom of information ordinance
South Korea	1996	1998	2004	Act on disclosure of information by public agencies

Taiwan		2005	Freedom of government information law
Tajikistan	2002	2002	Law on information
Thailand	1997	1997	Official information act
Turkey	2003	2004	Law on right to information
Uzbekistan	1997	1997	Law on the principles and guarantees of FOI
Yemen	2008	2012	Law of the right of access to information

## Europe

Albania	1999	1999	Law on right to information for official documents
Austria	1987	1987	Federal law on the duty to furnish information
Belgium	1994	1994	Law on the right of access to administrative documents ...
Bosnia & Herzegovina	2001	2002	Freedom of access to information act
Bulgaria	2000	2000	APIA: Access to public information act
Croatia	2003	2003	Act on the right of access to information
Czech Republic	1999	2000	Law on free access to information
Denmark	1970	1970	Access to public administration files act
Estonia	2000	2001	Public information act
Finland	1951	1951	Act on the openness of government activities
France	1978	1978	Law on freedom of access to administrative documents
Germany	2005	2006	Act to regulate access to federal government information
Greece	1986	1986	Code of administrative procedure
Hungary	1992	1992	Act on the protection of pers. data and public access to..
Iceland	1996	1997	Information act
Ireland	1997	1998	Freedom of information act
Italy	1990	1990	Law on administrative procedure and the right of access ...
Kosovo	2003	2003	Law on access to official documents
Latvia	1998	1998	Law on freedom of information
Liechtenstein	1999	2000	Information act
Lithuania	2000	2000	Law on the provision of information to the public
Macedonia	2006	2006	Law on free access to information of public character
Malta	2008	2012	Freedom of information act
Moldova	2000	2000	Law on access to information
Montenegro	2005	2005	Law on free access to information
Netherlands	1978	1980	Wob: Act on public access to government information
Norway	1970	1970	Freedom of information act
Poland	2001	2002	Law on access to public information
Portugal	1993	1993	Law on access to administrative documents
Romania	2001	2001	Law on free access to public Information
Russia	2009	2010	Fed. law on providing access to information
Serbia	2004	2004	Law on free access to information of public interest
Slovak Republic	2000	2001	Act on free access to information
Slovenia	2003	2003	Access to public information act
Sweden	1766	1766	Freedom of the press act
Switzerland	2004	2006	Federal Law on the Principle of Administrative Transparency
Ukraine	1992	1992	Law on information
United Kingdom	2000	2005	Freedom of information act

## Oceania

Australia	1982	1982	2009	Freedom of information act
Cook Islands		2009		Official information act
New Zealand	1982	1983	2003	Official information act

## The A1.4 list      Law links of the national FOIAs

<b>Countries</b>	Link to the FOIA law text in English Link to the FOIA law text in native tongue
Albania	<a href="http://www.hidaa.gov.al/english/laws/l_8503.htm">www.hidaa.gov.al/english/laws/l_8503.htm</a>
Angola	<a href="http://www.privacyinternational.org/countries/angola/foi-law02.doc">www.privacyinternational.org/countries/angola/foi-law02.doc</a>
Antigua/B.	<a href="http://www.ab.gov.ag/gov_v2/government/parliament/laws/freedom_of_info.pdf">www.ab.gov.ag/gov_v2/government/parliament/laws/freedom_of_info.pdf</a>
Argentine	<a href="http://infoleg.mecon.gov.ar/infolegInternet/anexos/90000-94999/90763/norma.htm">http://infoleg.mecon.gov.ar/infolegInternet/anexos/90000-94999/90763/norma.htm</a>
Armenia	<a href="http://www.foi.am/en/content/53/">www.foi.am/en/content/53/</a> <a href="http://www.legislationline.org/documents/action/popup/id/6410">www.legislationline.org/documents/action/popup/id/6410</a>
Australia	<a href="http://www.austlii.edu.au/au/legis/cth/consol_act/foia1982222/">www.austlii.edu.au/au/legis/cth/consol_act/foia1982222/</a> <a href="http://www.austlii.edu.au/au/legis/cth/consol_act/foia1982222/">www.austlii.edu.au/au/legis/cth/consol_act/foia1982222/</a>
Austria	
Azerbaijan	<a href="http://portal.unesco.org/ci/en/files/26135/12047260333Azerbaijan.pdf">http://portal.unesco.org/ci/en/files/26135/12047260333Azerbaijan.pdf/Azerbaijan.pdf</a>
Bangladesh	<a href="http://right2info.org/resources/publications/Bangladesh-RTI%20Ordinance%202008.pdf">http://right2info.org/resources/publications/Bangladesh-RTI%20Ordinance%202008.pdf</a>
Belgium	<a href="http://www.privacyinternational.org/countries/belgium/loi-publicite.rtf">www.privacyinternational.org/countries/belgium/loi-publicite.rtf</a>
Belize	<a href="http://www.belizelaw.org/lawadmin/PDF%20files/cap013.pdf">www.belizelaw.org/lawadmin/PDF%20files/cap013.pdf</a>
Bosnia & H.	<a href="http://www.ohr.int/ohr-dept/media-d/med-recon/freedom/default.asp?content_id=7269">www.ohr.int/ohr-dept/media-d/med-recon/freedom/default.asp?content_id=7269</a>
Barzil	
Bulgaria	<a href="http://www.aip-bq.org/library/laws/apia.htm">www.aip-bq.org/library/laws/apia.htm</a>
Canada	<a href="http://www.infocom.gc.ca/acts/pdfs/accessact.pdf">www.infocom.gc.ca/acts/pdfs/accessact.pdf</a> <a href="http://www.infocom.gc.ca/acts/pdfs/accessact.pdf">www.infocom.gc.ca/acts/pdfs/accessact.pdf</a>
Chile	<a href="http://www.bcn.cl/leyes/pdf/original/276363.pdf">www.bcn.cl/leyes/pdf/original/276363.pdf</a>
China	<a href="http://chinesefoi.org/regulation.aspx">http://chinesefoi.org/regulation.aspx</a>
Colombia	<a href="http://www.privacyinternational.org/countries/colombia/ley57-foi.doc">www.privacyinternational.org/countries/colombia/ley57-foi.doc</a>
Cook Isl.	<a href="http://www.cook-islands.gov.ck/view_release.php?release_id=1180">www.cook-islands.gov.ck/view_release.php?release_id=1180</a>
Croatia	<a href="http://www.gradjani-imaju-pravo-znati.hho.hr/index.php?lang=en">www.gradjani-imaju-pravo-znati.hho.hr/index.php?lang=en</a> <a href="http://www.gradjani-imaju-pravo-znati.hho.hr/index.php?lang=hr">www.gradjani-imaju-pravo-znati.hho.hr/index.php?lang=hr</a>
Czech Rep.	<a href="http://mujweb.cz/www/vaske/informace.htm">http://mujweb.cz/www/vaske/informace.htm</a>
Denmark	<a href="http://www.privacyinternational.org/countries/denmark/dk-foi-85.doc">www.privacyinternational.org/countries/denmark/dk-foi-85.doc</a> <a href="http://www.update.dk/cfje/Lovbasen.nsf/ID/LB00000597?OpenDocument">www.update.dk/cfje/Lovbasen.nsf/ID/LB00000597?OpenDocument</a>
Dominican R.	<a href="http://www.centrojuanmontalvo.org.do/documentos/acceso.pdf">www.centrojuanmontalvo.org.do/documentos/acceso.pdf</a>
Ecuador	<a href="http://www.freedominfo.org/documents/ecuador-spanish.pdf">www.freedominfo.org/documents/ecuador-spanish.pdf</a>
El Salvador	
Estonia	<a href="http://www.legaltext.ee/text/en/X40095K2.htm">www.legaltext.ee/text/en/X40095K2.htm</a>
Ethiopia	<a href="http://www.ethiopian-law.com/federal-laws/substantive-law-legislations/human-rights-and-governance/media-and-information/225-freedom-of-the-mass-media-and-access-to-information-proclamation-no-5902008.html">www.ethiopian-law.com/federal-laws/substantive-law-legislations/human-rights-and-governance/media-and-information/225-freedom-of-the-mass-media-and-access-to-information-proclamation-no-5902008.html</a>
Finland	<a href="http://www.finlex.fi/en/laki/kaannokset/1999/en19990621.pdf">www.finlex.fi/en/laki/kaannokset/1999/en19990621.pdf</a> <a href="http://www.finlex.fi/fi/laki/ajantasa/1999/19990621">www.finlex.fi/fi/laki/ajantasa/1999/19990621</a>
France	<a href="http://www.legifrance.gouv.fr/affichTexte.do?cidTexte=LEGITEXT000006068643&amp;dateTexte=20100919">www.legifrance.gouv.fr/affichTexte.do?cidTexte=LEGITEXT000006068643&amp;dateTexte=20100919</a>

Georgia	
Germany	<a href="http://www.bfdi.bund.de/cln_030/nn_672734/IFG/Gesetze/IFG/TextIFG_EN.templateId=raw.property=publicationFile.pdf/TextIFG_EN.pdf">www.bfdi.bund.de/cln_030/nn_672734/IFG/Gesetze/IFG/TextIFG_EN.templateId=raw.property=publicationFile.pdf/TextIFG_EN.pdf</a> <a href="http://www.bfdi.bund.de/cln_030/nn_672714/IFG/Gesetze/IFG/TextIFG.templateId=raw.property=publicationFile.pdf/TextIFG.pdf">www.bfdi.bund.de/cln_030/nn_672714/IFG/Gesetze/IFG/TextIFG.templateId=raw.property=publicationFile.pdf/TextIFG.pdf</a>
Greece	<a href="http://unpan1.un.org/intradoc/groups/public/documents/UNTC/UNPAN001820.pdf">http://unpan1.un.org/intradoc/groups/public/documents/UNTC/UNPAN001820.pdf</a>
Guatemala	<a href="http://www.freedominfo.org/documents/Guatemala_law_decreto_57-2008.pdf">www.freedominfo.org/documents/Guatemala_law_decreto_57-2008.pdf</a>
Guinea [Conakry]	<a href="http://right2info.org/resources/publications/guinea-ati-law-2010">http://right2info.org/resources/publications/guinea-ati-law-2010</a>
Honduras	<a href="http://www.unah.hn/uploaded/content/category/1434383409.pdf">www.unah.hn/uploaded/content/category/1434383409.pdf</a>
Hungary	<a href="http://abiweb.ohb.hu/dpc/index.php?menu=gyoker/relevant/national/1992_LXIII">http://abiweb.ohb.hu/dpc/index.php?menu=gyoker/relevant/national/1992_LXIII</a> <a href="http://abiweb.ohb.hu/abi/index.php?menu=8">http://abiweb.ohb.hu/abi/index.php?menu=8</a>
Iceland	<a href="http://eng.forsaetisraduneyti.is/media/English/accesstoinfo.doc">http://eng.forsaetisraduneyti.is/media/English/accesstoinfo.doc</a>
India	<a href="http://righttoinformation.gov.in/rti-act.pdf">http://righttoinformation.gov.in/rti-act.pdf</a> <a href="http://righttoinformation.gov.in/rti-actinhindi.pdf">http://righttoinformation.gov.in/rti-actinhindi.pdf</a>
Indonesia	
Ireland	<a href="http://www.oic.irlgov.ie/en/FOIActsRegulations/">www.oic.irlgov.ie/en/FOIActsRegulations/</a> <a href="http://www.oic.irlgov.ie/en/FOIActsRegulations/">www.oic.irlgov.ie/en/FOIActsRegulations/</a>
Israel	
Italy	<a href="http://www.parlamento.it/leggi/050151.htm">www.parlamento.it/leggi/050151.htm</a>
Jamaica	<a href="http://www.jis.gov.jm/special_sections/ATI/ATIACT.pdf">www.jis.gov.jm/special_sections/ATI/ATIACT.pdf</a>
Japan	<a href="http://www.soumu.go.jp/main_sosiki/gyoukan/kanri/translation3.htm">www.soumu.go.jp/main_sosiki/gyoukan/kanri/translation3.htm</a>
Jordan	<a href="http://right2info.org/resources/publications/Jordan-Access-Law-arabic.doc">http://right2info.org/resources/publications/Jordan-Access-Law-arabic.doc</a>
Kosovo	<a href="http://www.unmikonline.org/regulations/2003/RE2003_32%20.pdf">www.unmikonline.org/regulations/2003/RE2003_32%20.pdf</a>
Kyrgyzstan	
Latvia	
Liberia	
Liechtenstein	
Lithuania	<a href="http://www.gesetze.li/get_pdf.jsp?PDF=1999159.pdf">www.gesetze.li/get_pdf.jsp?PDF=1999159.pdf</a> <a href="http://www.lrs.lt/cgi-bin/getfmt?c1=w&amp;c2=170831">www.lrs.lt/cgi-bin/getfmt?c1=w&amp;c2=170831</a> <a href="http://www.lrs.lt/pls/inter2/dokpaieska.showdoc_e?p_id=101596">www.lrs.lt/pls/inter2/dokpaieska.showdoc_e?p_id=101596</a>
Macedonia	<a href="http://www.freedominfo.org/documents/Macedonia%20FOI%20Law%20ENG%20Official%20Gazette%2013-2006.doc">www.freedominfo.org/documents/Macedonia%20FOI%20Law%20ENG%20Official%20Gazette%2013-2006.doc</a>
Malta	<a href="http://www.justiceservices.gov.mt/DownloadDocument.aspx?app=lom&amp;itemid=8962&amp;l=1">www.justiceservices.gov.mt/DownloadDocument.aspx?app=lom&amp;itemid=8962&amp;l=1</a>
Mexico	
Moldova	<a href="http://www.freedominfo.org/documents/mexico_ley.pdf">http://www.freedominfo.org/documents/mexico_ley.pdf</a> <a href="http://www.acces-info.org.md/index.php?cid=122&amp;lid=815">www.acces-info.org.md/index.php?cid=122&amp;lid=815</a> <a href="http://www.acces-info.org.md/index.php?cid=122&amp;lid=50">www.acces-info.org.md/index.php?cid=122&amp;lid=50</a>
Mongolia	
Montenegro	
Nepal	<a href="http://www.ccrinepal.org/legal-provision/rti-act-2007">http://www.ccrinepal.org/legal-provision/rti-act-2007</a>
Netherlands	<a href="http://www.minbzk.nl//bzk2006uk/subjects/constitution-and/publications/4327/act-on-public-access">www.minbzk.nl//bzk2006uk/subjects/constitution-and/publications/4327/act-on-public-access</a> <a href="http://wetten.overheid.nl/zoeken_op/regeling_type_wetten+AMVB+ministries/titel_bevat_Wob/datum_9-10-2011">http://wetten.overheid.nl/zoeken_op/regeling_type_wetten+AMVB+ministries/titel_bevat_Wob/datum_9-10-2011</a>
New Zealand	<a href="http://www.ombudsmen.parliament.nz/internal.asp?cat=100095">www.ombudsmen.parliament.nz/internal.asp?cat=100095</a>
Nicaragua	
Niger	<a href="http://right2info.org/resources/publications/niger-law-on-access-to-public-documents">http://right2info.org/resources/publications/niger-law-on-access-to-public-documents</a>

Nigeria	<a href="http://freedominfo.org/documents/Nigeria2011finalbill.pdf">http://freedominfo.org/documents/Nigeria2011finalbill.pdf</a>
Norway	<a href="http://www.ub.uio.no/ujur/ulovdata/lov-20060519-016-eng.pdf">www.ub.uio.no/ujur/ulovdata/lov-20060519-016-eng.pdf</a> <a href="http://www.lovdata.no/all/nl-20060519-016.html">www.lovdata.no/all/nl-20060519-016.html</a>
Pakistan	
Panama	<a href="http://www.legalinfo-panama.com/legislacion/administrativo/00195.pdf">www.legalinfo-panama.com/legislacion/administrativo/00195.pdf</a>
Peru	<a href="http://www.minjus.gob.pe/transparencia2/Ley_27927_modifica_Ley_Transparencia.pdf">www.minjus.gob.pe/transparencia2/Ley_27927_modifica_Ley_Transparencia.pdf</a>
Poland	
Portugal	<a href="http://www.cada.pt/modules/news/article.php?storyid=28">www.cada.pt/modules/news/article.php?storyid=28</a>
Romania	<a href="http://www.dci.ro/En/Legi/544.pdf">http://www.dci.ro/En/Legi/544.pdf</a> <a href="http://legislatie.resurse-pentru-democratie.org/544_2001.php">http://legislatie.resurse-pentru-democratie.org/544_2001.php</a>
Russia	
Serbia	
Slovak Rep.	
Slovenia	<a href="http://www.ip-rs.si/index.php?id=324">www.ip-rs.si/index.php?id=324</a> <a href="http://www.ip-rs.si/zakonodaja/zakon-o-dostopu-do-informacij-javnega-znacaja/">www.ip-rs.si/zakonodaja/zakon-o-dostopu-do-informacij-javnega-znacaja/</a>
South Africa	
South Korea	<a href="http://www.freedominfo.org/documents/korea%20980258118_korea.doc">www.freedominfo.org/documents/korea%20980258118_korea.doc</a>
St Vincent & Gre.	<a href="http://www.humanrightsinitiative.org/programs/ai/rti/international/laws_papers/vincent/foi_act_2003.pdf">www.humanrightsinitiative.org/programs/ai/rti/international/laws_papers/vincent/foi_act_2003.pdf</a>
Sweden	
Switzerland	<a href="http://www.riksdagen.se/templates/R_Page_6062.aspx">www.riksdagen.se/templates/R_Page_6062.aspx</a>
Taiwan	<a href="http://www.admin.ch/ch/f/ff/2004/6807.pdf">www.admin.ch/ch/f/ff/2004/6807.pdf</a> <a href="http://www.glin.gov/view.action?glinID=173514">www.glin.gov/view.action?glinID=173514</a>
Tajikistan	
Thailand	<a href="http://www.cipi.tj/index.php?option=com_content&amp;task=view&amp;id=9&amp;Itemid=3">www.cipi.tj/index.php?option=com_content&amp;task=view&amp;id=9&amp;Itemid=3</a> <a href="http://www.oic.go.th/content_eng/act.htm">www.oic.go.th/content_eng/act.htm</a>
Trinidad & T.	<a href="http://www.foia.gov.tt/">www.foia.gov.tt/</a>
Tunisia	
Turkey	
Uganda	<a href="http://www.freedominfo.org/documents/uganda_ati_act_2005.pdf">www.freedominfo.org/documents/uganda_ati_act_2005.pdf</a>
Ukraine	<a href="http://www.archives.gov.ua/Eng/Law-base/Legislations1991-1994.php#03">www.archives.gov.ua/Eng/Law-base/Legislations1991-1994.php#03</a>
UK	<a href="http://www.opsi.gov.uk/acts/acts2000/ukpga_20000036_en_1">www.opsi.gov.uk/acts/acts2000/ukpga_20000036_en_1</a> <a href="http://www.opsi.gov.uk/acts/acts2000/ukpga_20000036_en_1">www.opsi.gov.uk/acts/acts2000/ukpga_20000036_en_1</a>
USA	<a href="http://www.usdoj.gov/oip/foiastat.htm">www.usdoj.gov/oip/foiastat.htm</a> <a href="http://www.usdoj.gov/oip/foiastat.htm">www.usdoj.gov/oip/foiastat.htm</a>
Uruguay	<a href="http://right2info.org/resources/publications/Uruguay%20ATI%20Law.doc">http://right2info.org/resources/publications/Uruguay%20ATI%20Law.doc</a>
Uzbekistan	
Yemen	
Zimbabwe	<a href="http://www.kubatana.net/html/archive/legisl/030611aippaamd.asp?sector=LEGISL">www.kubatana.net/html/archive/legisl/030611aippaamd.asp?sector=LEGISL</a>

## The A2 list

## The sub-national FOIAs in alphabetical order

A part of the countries with a national FOIA has also one or more sub-national ones. This part of the overview is young, please reply if you have additions and/or corrections.

<u>Territories</u>	Year of formal approval or formal adoption of the FOIA
<u>Provinces</u>	Year in which the FOIA came in power <<< <b>only these FOIAs are counted !!</b>
<u>States</u>	Year of latest FOIA revision
<u>Etc</u>	Name of the FOIA, in English Name of the FOIA, in native tongue Link

## Argentine

### Provinces

8 of 32 have a FOIA  
4 others have a FOI decree

### Municipalities

Buenos Aires City has a FOIA

+ 13

## Australia

### States

Queensland	2009	Queensland Right to Information Act
New South Wales		
Victoria		
Tasmania		
South Australia		
Western Australia		

### Territories

Australian Capital Territory		
Northern Territory	2003	Northern Territory Information Act

+ 8

## Austria

### Bundesländer

Burgenland  
Kärnthein  
Nieder-Österreich  
Ober-Österreich  
Salzburg  
Steiermark  
Tirol  
Vorarlberg  
Wien

+ 9

## **Belgium**

<u>Regions</u>	<u>The Belgian sub-national situation is very complex</u>		
Brussels		1 decree + 3 ordinances	
Flanders		1 decree	
Wallonia		4 decree	
<u>Communities</u>			
French		1 decree	
German		1 decree	
+ 11			

## **Canada**

<u>Provinces</u>			
Alberta	1994	Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act <a href="http://www.oipc.ab.ca/pages/home/">www.oipc.ab.ca/pages/home/</a>	
British Columbia	1992	Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act -	
Manitoba	1985	Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act <a href="http://www.ombudsman.mb.ca/legislation.htm">www.ombudsman.mb.ca/legislation.htm</a>	
New Brunswick	1978	Right to Information Act <a href="http://www.gnb.ca/0073/info-e.asp">www.gnb.ca/0073/info-e.asp</a>	
Newfoundland and Labrador	1981	2002	Access to Information and Protection of Privacy Act <a href="http://www.oipc.nl.ca/">www.oipc.nl.ca/</a>
Nova Scotia	1977	Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act <a href="http://foipop.ns.ca/legislation.html">http://foipop.ns.ca/legislation.html</a>	
Ontario	1987	Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act <a href="http://www.ipc.on.ca/english/Access-To-Information/">www.ipc.on.ca/english/Access-To-Information/</a>	
Prince Edward Island	2001	Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act <a href="http://www.gov.pe.ca/jps/index.php3?number=1024336&amp;lang=E">www.gov.pe.ca/jps/index.php3?number=1024336&amp;lang=E</a>	
Quebec	1982	An Act Respecting Access to Docs Held by Public Bodies <a href="http://www.cai.gouv.qc.ca/index-en.html">www.cai.gouv.qc.ca/index-en.html</a>	
Saskatchewan	1991	Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act -	
<u>Territories</u>			
Northwest Territories	1994	Access to Information and Protection of Privacy Act -	
Nunavut	2000	Access to Information and Protection of Privacy Act <a href="http://www.info-privacy.nu.ca/en/home">www.info-privacy.nu.ca/en/home</a>	
Yukon	1984	Access to Information and Protection of Privacy Act <a href="http://www.atipp.gov.yk.ca/">www.atipp.gov.yk.ca/</a>	
<u>Municipalities</u>			
Ontario	1990	Municipal FOI and Protection of Privacy Act <a href="http://www.e-laws.gov.on.ca/html/statutes/english/elaws_statutes_90m56_e.htm">www.e-laws.gov.on.ca/html/statutes/english/elaws_statutes_90m56_e.htm</a>	
Saskatchewan	1991	Local Authority FOI and Protection of Privacy Act <a href="http://www.qp.gov.sk.ca/documents/English/Statutes/Statutes/L27-1.pdf">www.qp.gov.sk.ca/documents/English/Statutes/Statutes/L27-1.pdf</a>	
+ 15			

## **China**

<u>Special Administrative Regions</u>			
Hong Kong	1995	1998	Code on access to information
Shanghai		2004	Shanghai Municipal Provisions on Open Govt Information
<u>Municipalities</u>			
Guangzhou		2002	Guangzhou Municipal Provisions on Open Govt Information
+ 3			

## Denmark

<u>Countries</u>				
Greenland	1994	1995	1999	Law on openness in administration Landstingslov om offentlighed i forvaltningen <a href="http://www.lovgivning.gl/gh.gl-love/dk/1994/Ltl/ltr_nr_09-19-94_dk.htm">www.lovgivning.gl/gh.gl-love/dk/1994/Ltl/ltr_nr_09-19-94_dk.htm</a>
<u>Provinces</u>				
Faroe	2004	2004		Law on openness in administration Landstingslov om offentlighed i forvaltningen

+ 2

## Finland

<u>Provinces</u>				
Aland	1977	2008		Act on the openness of government activities Lag om allmänna handlingars offentlighet
+ 1				

## Germany

<u>Bundesländer</u>				
Berlin	1999	2010		among them [11 out of 16]: Berliner Informationsfreiheitsgesetz <a href="http://www.datenschutz-berlin.de/content/informationsfreiheit/berlin">www.datenschutz-berlin.de/content/informationsfreiheit/berlin</a>
Brandenburg	1998			Akteneinsichts- und Informationszugangsgesetz Data Protection and Access to Information <a href="http://www.lfd.brandenburg.de/sixcms/detail.php?template=start&amp;lfd&amp;qsid=5lbd1.c.97044.de">www.lfd.brandenburg.de/sixcms/detail.php?template=start&amp;lfd&amp;qsid=5lbd1.c.97044.de</a>
Bremen	2006			Gesetz über die Freiheit des Zugangs zu Informationen <a href="http://www.informationsfreiheit-bremen.de/informationsfreiheit.php">www.informationsfreiheit-bremen.de/informationsfreiheit.php</a>
Hamburg	2006			Hamburgisches Informationsfreiheitsgesetz <a href="http://www.bfdi.bund.de/cln_136/SharedDocs/IFG/IFGLandesgesetze/HamburgischesIFG.html?nn=412008">www.bfdi.bund.de/cln_136/SharedDocs/IFG/IFGLandesgesetze/HamburgischesIFG.html?nn=412008</a>
Mecklenburg-Vorpommern	2006			Informationsfreiheitsgesetz Mecklenburg-Vorpommern <a href="http://www.informationsfreiheit-mv.de/inffrei/ges_ver/ifg/ifgmv/ifgmv.html">www.informationsfreiheit-mv.de/inffrei/ges_ver/ifg/ifgmv/ifgmv.html</a>
Nordrhein-Westfalen	2002			Informationsfreiheitsgesetz Nordrhein-Westfalen <a href="http://www.bfdi.bund.de/cln_136/SharedDocs/IFG/IFGLandesgesetze/IFGNRW.html?nn=412008">www.bfdi.bund.de/cln_136/SharedDocs/IFG/IFGLandesgesetze/IFGNRW.html?nn=412008</a>
Rheinland-Pfalz	2009			Informationsfreiheitsgesetz -
Saarland	2006			Saarländisches Informationsfreiheitsgesetz <a href="http://www.sadaba.de/GSLT_SIFG.html">www.sadaba.de/GSLT_SIFG.html</a>
Sachsen-Anhalt	2008			Informationszugangsgesetz Sachsen-Anhalt <a href="http://www.bfdi.bund.de/cae/servlet/contentblob/416200/publicationFile/24710/SachsenAnhalt.pdf">www.bfdi.bund.de/cae/servlet/contentblob/416200/publicationFile/24710/SachsenAnhalt.pdf</a>
Schleswig-Holstein	2000			Informationsfreiheitsgesetz Schleswig-Holstein <a href="https://www.datenschutzzentrum.de/material/recht/ifg.htm">https://www.datenschutzzentrum.de/material/recht/ifg.htm</a>
Thüringen	2007			Thüringer Informationsfreiheitsgesetz <a href="http://www.bfdi.bund.de/cae/servlet/contentblob/416228/publicationFile/24711/ThueringerIFG.pdf">www.bfdi.bund.de/cae/servlet/contentblob/416228/publicationFile/24711/ThueringerIFG.pdf</a>

+ 11

## **India**

### State

Jammu and Kashmir

### Territory

Delhi

National Capital Territory of Delhi RTI Act

+ 2

## **Malaysia**

### States

Penang	2010	2012
Selangor	2010	2011

+ 2

## **Mexico**

### States

Aquascalien  
Baja California  
Baja California Sur  
Campeche  
Chiapas  
Chihuahua  
Coahuila  
Colima  
Federal District  
Durango  
Guanajuato  
Guerrero  
Hidalgo  
Jalisco  
Mexico State  
Michoacan  
Morelos  
Nayarit  
Nuevo Leon  
Oxaca  
Puebla  
Queretaro  
Quintana Roo  
San Luis Potosi  
Sinaloa  
Sonora  
Tabasco  
Tamaulipas  
Tlaxcala  
Veracruz  
Yucatan  
Zacatecas

+ 32

## Netherlands

### Countries

Aruba	1999	1999	2006	Lob: Act on public access to government information Lob: Landsverordening openbaarheid van bestuur <a href="http://www.overheid.aw/index.asp?nmoduleid=4&amp;wgi-d=6&amp;nbrwsrdtctn=-1&amp;spagetype=6&amp;docid=329">www.overheid.aw/index.asp?nmoduleid=4&amp;wgi-d=6&amp;nbrwsrdtctn=-1&amp;spagetype=6&amp;docid=329</a>
Curacao	1999	1999		Lob: Act on public access to government information Lob: Landsverordening openbaarheid van bestuur <a href="http://www.curacao-gov.an/site.nsf/Sectionpages/LOB?Open-Document">www.curacao-gov.an/site.nsf/Sectionpages/LOB?Open-Document</a>
Sint Maarten	1999	1999		Lob: Act on public access to government information Lob: Landsverordening openbaarheid van bestuur <a href="http://www.curacao-gov.an/site.nsf/Sectionpages/LOB?Open-Document">www.curacao-gov.an/site.nsf/Sectionpages/LOB?Open-Document</a> [not yet a site of its own]
+ 3				

## Nigeria

### State

Ekiti	2011	Freedom of information act
Ogun	2012	Freedom of information act
+ 2		

## Pakistan

### Provinces

Sindh	2006	among them: <a href="http://www.ourrighttoknow.org/sindh-foi-law.html">www.ourrighttoknow.org/sindh-foi-law.html</a>
Baluchistan	2005	<a href="http://www.ourrighttoknow.org/balochistan-foi-law.html">www.ourrighttoknow.org/balochistan-foi-law.html</a>
+ 2		

## Russia

### Regions

Kaliningrad	2002	On procedure to Disclose Information by Bodies ...
Krasnoyarsk	2003	On citizens Right to Information on State Bodies Activities...
Novgorod	2004	On procedure to Disclose Information by Bodies of State ...
Rostov	2008	On Providing of Access to information on State Bodies ...
Volgograd	2003	On procedure to Disclose Information by Bodies of State ..

### Municipalities

Moscow	2004	Law on Guarantees of Access to Information on Moscow ...
Saint-Petersburg	1995	Law on Guarantees of Constitutional Citizens Right to Info...

### Territories

Primorie	2004	On State Information Resource of the Primorie Territory ...
+ 8		

## United Kingdom

<u>Countries</u>			
Scotland	2002	2005	Freedom of information [Scotland] act <a href="http://www.itspublicknowledge.info/law/foisa/foisa.asp">www.itspublicknowledge.info/law/foisa/foisa.asp</a> 60 requests per 100.000 inhabitants
<u>Territories</u>			
Cayman Islands	2007	2009	Freedom of information law <a href="http://www.infocomm.ky/pubdocs/file/freedom_of_information_law_2007.pdf">www.infocomm.ky/pubdocs/file/freedom_of_information_law_2007.pdf</a>
Bermuda	2010	2010	Freedom of information law
Isle of Man/Manx	2008	2012	Freedom of information law
<u>Off topic</u>			
Isle of Wight			Under the scope of the UK FOIA
+ 5			

## United States of America

<u>States</u>	
Alabama	2010
Alaska	
Arizona	
Arkansas	
California	
Colorado	
Connecticut	
Delaware	
Florida	
Georgia	
Hawaii	
Idaho	
Illinois	
Indiana	
Iowa	
Kansas	
Kentucky	
Louisiana	
Maine	
Maryland	
Massachusetts	
Michigan	
Minnesota	
Mississippi	
Missouri	
Montana	
Nebraska	
Nevada	
New Hampshire	
New Jersey	
New Mexico	
New York	
North-Carolina	
North-Dakota	
Ohio	
Oklahoma	
Oregon	
Pennsylvania	
Rhode Island	
South-Carolina	
South-Dakota	
Tennessee	
Texas	

Utah  
Vermont  
Virginia  
Washington      2005      Public Records Act  
West-Virginia  
Wisconsin  
Wyoming

Federal District  
Washington DC

+ 51

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## The A3 list

## The Inter-, super- and supranational FOIAs

### Organisation

Year of formal approval/adoption of a FOIA regulation/policy  
Year in which the FOIA regulation came in power  
Status and/or name of the FOIA

Belfast Good Friday Agreement <sup>1</sup>	1999	1999	North/South Bodies FOI Code of Practice
European Union	2001	2001	FOI Regulation
World Bank	2010	2010	Policy on Access to Information <sup>2</sup>

+ 3

### **Notes**

<sup>1</sup> [http://foiwiki.com/foiwiki/index.php/North/South\\_Bodies\\_Freedom\\_of\\_Information\\_Code\\_of\\_Practice](http://foiwiki.com/foiwiki/index.php/North/South_Bodies_Freedom_of_Information_Code_of_Practice)  
<http://www.whatdotheyknow.com/body/list/nsbody>

<sup>2</sup> [http://www-wds.worldbank.org/external/default/WDSContentServer/WDSP/IB/2010/06/03/000112742\\_2010-0603084843/Rendered/PDF/548730Access01y0Statement01Final1.pdf](http://www-wds.worldbank.org/external/default/WDSContentServer/WDSP/IB/2010/06/03/000112742_2010-0603084843/Rendered/PDF/548730Access01y0Statement01Final1.pdf)

## The B1 list – More or less close to a FOIA – National

<u>Countries</u>	Serious lobby	Year of first FOIA draft	Year of FOIA approval	Prognosis for coming into power of the FOIA	Status and/or name of the FOIA
Afghanistan		2010		Draft	
Bahamas			2012	Approved	
Bahrain		2008		Draft	
Barbados			2008	Draft	
Bhutan			2009	Draft	
Bolivia			2004	Draft, newest draft 2010	
Botswana		2010	2011	Draft	
Burkina Faso		2010		Lobby	
Cambodia			2011	Draft	
Cyprus		2011		Lobby	
Dominica			2011	Draft	
Egypt		2008	2012	Draft	
Ghana			2002	New draft 2007	
Guyana			2005	Approved	
Iran			2004	Approved, actual status unclear	
Iraq			2009	Draft	
Kazakhstan		2010	2010	Draft	
Kenya			2007	Draft	
St Kitts and Nevis			2006	Draft	
Kuwait		2008		Draft	
Lebanon		2010		Lobby	
Lesotho			2000	Draft, actual status unclear	
Luxembourg			2000	Approved	
Malaysia		2005	2006	Approved	
Maldives				Approved	
Mali		2010		Lobby	
Morocco		2007		Lobby	
Mozambique			2005	Draft	
Namibia		2012		Lobby	
Nigeria		1999	2000	Approved	
Palestine		2005	2005	Draft	
Papua New Guinea			1999	Draft	
Paraguay		2008		Draft	
Philippines			2008	Draft, not approved in 2010	
Rwanda			2010	Approved	
Senegal		2010	2010	Lobby	
Sierra Leone				Approved	
Solomon Islands		2008	2009	Draft	
Spain			2009	Draft	
Sri Lanka		2011		Lobby	
St Lucia			2011	Draft	
Sudan				Draft	
Surinam			2008	Draft	
Swaziland			2007	Draft	
Tanzania			2006	Draft	
Tonga		2011		Lobby	
Vanuatu			2006	Draft	
Venezuela		2010		Lobby	
Vietnam			2009	Draft	
Zambia		2011		Lobby	

## The B2 list – More or less close to a FOIA – Sub-national

<u>Territories</u>	Serious lobby
<u>Provinces</u>	Year of first FOIA draft
<u>States</u>	Year of FOIA approval
	Prognosis for coming into power of the FOIA
	Status and/or name of the FOIA
UK: Guernsey	Draft, more or less
UK: Jersey	Draft
	2005    2011    2015

## The B3 list – More or less close to a FOIA – Inter-, super- and supranational

<u>Organisation</u>	Year of formal approval/adoption of a FOIA regulation/policy	Year in which the FOIA regulation came in power	Status and/or name of the FOIA
AfDB: African Development Bank	1997	?	-
Asian Development Bank	1994	?	-
EBRD: European Bank for Recon. and Develop.	1996	?	-
Inter American Development Bank	1994	?	-
IMF: International Monetary Fund	2002	?	FOI policy statement
UN: United Nations	?	?	Some kind of FOI regulation in early stage
UNDP: UN Development Programme	?	?	Some kind of FOI regulation in early stage
UNESCO	?	?	Formal commitment to adopt a FOI policy

## The C1 list – No sign of a FOIA – National

Algeria  
Andorra  
Belarus  
Benin  
Brunei  
Burma  
Burundi  
Cameroon  
Cape Verde  
Central African Republic  
Chad  
Comoros  
Congo  
Congo Democratic Republic  
Costa Rica  
Cuba  
Djibouti  
East Timor  
Equatorial Guinea  
Eritrea  
Fiji Islands  
Gambia  
Gabon  
Grenada  
Guinea Bissau  
Haiti  
Ivory Coast  
Kiribati  
Laos  
Libya  
Madagascar  
Malawi  
Marshall Islands  
Mauritania  
Mauritius  
Monaco  
Myanmar  
Nauru  
Niger  
North Korea  
Oman  
Palau  
Qatar  
San Marino  
Sao Tome and Principe  
Samoa  
Saudi Arabia  
Seychelles  
Singapore  
Somalia  
Syria  
Togo  
Turkmenistan  
Tuvalu  
United Arab Emirates  
Vatican  
West Sahara  
West Samoa

## The C2 list – No sign of a FOIA – Sub-national

	<u>Part of:</u>
Akrotiri	UK
Alderney	UK
Andaman and Nicobar Islands	India
Anguilla	UK
Ashmore and Cartier Islands	Australia
Australian Antarctic Territory	Australia
Baker Island	US
Chandigarh	India
Christmas Islands	Australia
Clipperton Island	France
Cocos Islands	Australia
Coral Sea Islands	Australia
Dadra and Nagar Haveli	India
Daman and Diu	Indie
Falkland Islands	UK
French Guyana	France
French Polynesia	France
French Southern & Antarctic Lands	France
Gibraltar	UK
Guadeloupe	France
Guam	US
Guantanamo Bay Naval Base	US
Heard and McDonald Islands	Australia
Howland Island	US
Jan Mayen	Norway
Jarvis Island	US
Jervis Bay Territory	Australia
Johnston Atoll	US
Kingman Reef	US
Lakshadweep	India
Macau [SAR]	China
Martinique	France
Mayotte	France
Midway Islands	US
Montserrat	UK
New Caledonia	France
Niue	Nw Zealand
Norfolk Islands	Australia
Northern Mariana Islands	US
Palmyra Atoll	US
Pitcairn Islands	UK
Puducherry	India
Puerto Rico	US
Reunion	France
Sark	UK
St Barthelemy	France
St Helena	UK
St Martin	France
St Pierre and Miquelon	France
S Georgia & S Sandwich Islands	UK
Svalbard	Norway
Turks and Caicos Islands	UK
Virgin Islands	US
Wake Island	US
Wallis and Futuna	France

Extraterritorial jurisdiction: FOIA implication unclear

Formerly a part of New South Wales

### **Strange entities**

Arctic & Antarctic  
Moon  
Planets & Space  
Seas & Oceans & Continental Shelves

◀◀◀ A serious FOI problem

## The C3 list – No sign of a FOIA – Inter-, super- and supranational

<u>Organisation</u>	Year of formal approval/adoption of a FOIA regulation/policy	Year in which the FOIA regulation came in power	Status and/or name of the FOIA
ABEDA: Arab Bank for Ec. Development in Africa	?	?	-
ASEAN: Association of South East Asian Nations	?	?	-
AU: African Union	?	?	-
Council of Europe	?	?	-
Commonwealth	?	?	-
ECO: Economic Cooperation Organisation	?	?	-
EFTA: European Free Trade Association	?	?	-
Egmont Group	?	?	-
EIB: European Investment Bank	?	?	-
FAO: Food and Agricultural Organisation	?	?	-
FTAA: Free Trade Area of the Americas	?	?	-
Mercosur: Southern Common Market	?	?	-
NATO: North Atlantic Treaty Organisation	?	?	-
OAS: Org. of American States	?	?	-
OECD: Org. for Economic Coop. and Devlp.	?	?	-
OPEC: Org. of Petroleum Export. Countries	?	?	-
OSCE: Org. for Security & Coop in Europe	?	?	-
Pacific Forum Secretariat	?	?	-
SADC: Southern African Devlp. Community	?	?	-
SECI: Southeast European Coop. Initiative	?	?	-
Sparteca: South Pacific Coop Agreement	?	?	-
UNEP: UN Environment Program	?	?	-
UNHCR: UN High Comm. for Refugees	?	?	-
UNICEF	?	?	-
UNIDO: UN Industrial Development Organisation	?	?	-
WAEMU: West African Econ. & Mon. Union	?	?	-
WEU: Western European Union	?	?	-
WCO: World Customs Organisation	?	?	-
WFO: World Food Program	?	?	-
WHO: World Health Organisation	?	?	-
WTO: World Trade Organisation	?	?	-
Zanger Committee	?	?	-

# ►►►►►►►►► Fringe Colophon

This Overview is a Special of the Fringe journals

## About the editor/publisher: Roger Vleugels

In 1986, I started my own office and began working as a legal advisor and lecturer specialized in freedom of information and intelligence. In 2001, I added the publishing of the two Fringe journals to my activities. I lecture on freedom of information at journalism schools, universities and corporations. I have taught students in or from Argentina, Aruba, Belgium, Bulgaria, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, Germany, Hungary, Indonesia, Italy, Iran, Ireland, Macedonia, Mexico, Moldova, the Netherlands, Norway, Slovakia, South Africa, Sweden, Turkey and the United Kingdom. Since 1988, I have as a legal advisor / acting lawyer filed for or with my clients more than 4,000 FOIA requests. Most of these clients are journalists in the Netherlands but also special interest groups, NGOs, researchers and private persons. As an intelligence specialist, I research and lecture on this topic. I also comment in the press, brief members of parliament and advise journalists and lawyers.

## The format of the Fringe journals

The main goal of the Fringe journals is: not being a regular magazine. The journals are purely a research tool. **Articles are not selected for their content but for the facts or trends within them. One of the consequences is that Fringe does not discriminate between information and disinformation.**

Other goals are trying to publish news in early stages, before the news is established with an overall focus on next to mainstream. After doing so Fringe will not cover such a topic further, unless there is again something special, and above all: Fringe hopes to be a bit wayward.

## Surfing, searching, stringers and sources

Articles are gathered for Fringe by a small group of Dutch and foreign stringers, some of whom work covertly. Without the work of these stringers Fringe would not be possible. Additionally I do some of the gathering on my own, mainly by netsurfing and maintaining a range of subscriptions, feeds and alerts. Some of the more specialised sources are: Access Info Europe, AIP Bulgaria, Article 19, BeSpecific, Bigwobber, Bits of Freedom, Centre for Law & Democracy, Cryptogram, CFOI, Cryptome, EDRI-gram, EFF, EPIC, FOIANet, FreedomInfo, Geheim, Infowarrior, Intelforum, Intelligence Online, Memory Hole, Mother Jones, National Security Archive, NatoWatch, NISA, Privacy International, RCFP, Secrecy News, StateWatch, Terrorism Monitor and Wired.

## Two Fringe journals

*Fringe Intelligence* gathers intelligence news from established media and outlets beyond the mainstream. The journal offers articles covering classical intelligence and counterintelligence, criminal and private espionage and more. The main focus is on forensic and operational information, and not on bureaucracy, politics and the formal/legal aspects of intelligence. *Fringe Intelligence* does not concentrate on terrorism. Special sections highlight NARINT, or Natural Resources Intelligence [dealing with energy, rare earth, water and climate intelligence], and Intelligence 2.0 [IT sector-generated private intelligence]. These sections look beyond jihad, cyber and other previous or present threats.

*Fringe Spitting* publishes for freedom of information [FOI] specialists, investigative journalists and other researchers, with a special focus on FOI practitioners and requesters, news on caseload, jurisprudence, litigation, tools and trends. Space is also devoted to recently disclosed "old news" on intelligence, revealed by FOI requests.

Taken together, the two biweekly journals contain about 100 articles per month selected from a variety of media sources. Almost all articles are internet downloads. Over 90% are in English. Less than 10% are focused on the Netherlands. The contents stand or fall with the quality of the source.

## 3,100 subscribers

In terms of circulation, both *Fringe* journals enjoy a top ranking in their sector, respectively OSINT and FOI, among the worldwide communities of independent email journals and mailing lists.

Fifty-five percent of the subscribers are intelligence specialists, 30% journalists and 15% FOIA specialists. They live in 110 countries: 35% in NL, 5% in UK, 25% in US and 35% in the rest of the world. Fifteen percent of the subscribers are government employees [half of whom work in intelligence services] and 15% are employed by universities and colleges.

## Pose questions directly or by LinkedIn and Twitter

Please feel free to mail me, Roger Vleugels, directly. You can also contact me by the networks I belong to. More than 1,000 subscribers have joined one or more groups managed by me on LinkedIn: **FOIA Specialists; Web Specialists; NARINT; Dutch Intelligence Watch Specialists or Intelligence 2.0.**

I am also active on Twitter. Most of my tweets are in Dutch, but I also tweet breaking news in English: **@RogerVleugels**. For privacy and usability reasons, I do not like Facebook. Therefore I am only passively present on that network.

## Subscriptions are free of charge and include both journals

Subscribers receive both journals free of charge. A voluntary contribution is very welcome, however. Producing Fringe is a time-consuming project. Each year in January I ask subscribers for a voluntary contribution.

Copyright law [see the Fair Use Restriction at the bottom of this colophon] forbids me to charge for journals like Fringe. Therefore, the only way to collect enough money to keep this service going is by voluntary contributions or donations.

The percentage of paying subscribers is about 8%. To guarantee the service in the long run 400-500 paying subscribers on a yearly basis are needed.

To start a subscription e-mail: Start Fringe in the subject line, to [roger.vleugels@planet.nl](mailto:roger.vleugels@planet.nl)

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**Voluntary contributions or donations are very welcome**

My suggestion:

48.00 Euros per year for individual subscribers [this equals one Euro per issue]  
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200.00 Euros per year for news media or other organizations with multiple users/subscribers or subscribers who are well to do

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