

Right2Info Chart – Foreigners’ Right to Information

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

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

² Ethiopian Constitution, Article 29(2)

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

⁴ Freedom of Information Act of 2010, 1.3.4.

⁵ Freedom of Information Act of 2010, 1.4.b.

⁶ Freedom of Information Act, 2011, Article 2(1)

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

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

⁷ 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>

⁸ Promotion of Access to Information Act, 2000, §1

⁹ Constitution of the Republic of South Africa, 1996, Article 32(1)

¹⁰ 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

¹¹ 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>

¹² The Freedom of Information Act, 2004, Part III, Section 15(1)

¹³ 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/>

¹⁴ Freedom of Information Act, 1994, Article 9

¹⁵ Access to Information Law, 2011, at Chapter III, Section I, Article 10

¹⁶ Canada ATI Act, Art 4(1) and (2)

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

¹⁷ Freedom of Information (General) Regulations, 2008, Schedule 1

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

¹⁹ Law Ordering the Publicity of Official Acts and Documents, 1985, Article 12

²⁰ General Free Access to Public Information Law, 2004, Article 1

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

²² Law for Access to Public Information, 2010, Article 2

²³ Law of Access to Public Information, 2008, Article 1

²⁴ Law of Access to Public Information, 2008, Article 3

²⁵ Law of Access to Public Information, 2008, Article 13

²⁶ The Access to Information Act, 2002, Part II, Article 6(1)

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

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

ASIA & PACIFIC				
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²⁸ Federal Transparency and Access to Public Government Information Law, 2002, at Chapter II, Article 11

²⁹ Law on Access to Public Information, 2007, Articles 3 and 27

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

³¹ Constitution, 1992, Article 28(1)

³² Constitution, 1992, Article 28(2)

³³ Political Constitution of Peru, 1993, at Chapter I, Article 2

³⁴ Freedom of Information Act, 2003, Article 10

³⁵ Freedom of Information Act, 1997, Part III, Article 11(1)

³⁶ Law 18,381 (notified in 2008), Article 3

³⁷ Freedom of Information Act, 1966, Article 3(a)

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

³⁸ Freedom of information Act 1982, Part I, §3(1).

³⁹ Freedom of information Act 1982, Part III, §11(1).

⁴⁰ Right to Information Act, 2009, at Chapter II, Article 4

⁴¹ Art. 1, Regulations on Disclosure of Government Information 2007

⁴² Right to Information Act, 2005, at Chapter II, Article 3

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

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

⁴⁵ Law Concerning Access to Information Held by Administrative Orgns, 1999, Article 3

⁴⁶ Right to Information Act, 2007, and Right to Information Rule, 2009, at Chapter 2, Article 3

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

⁴⁷ Official Information Act, 1982, Part 2, Article 12(1A)

⁴⁸ Freedom of Information Ordinance, 2002, Article 12

⁴⁹ Constitution, 1987, Article III, Section 7

⁵⁰ Act on Disclosure of Information by Public Agencies, 1996, Article 6

⁵¹ The Freedom of Government Information Law, 2005, at Chapter 3, Article 9

⁵² Law on the Right to Access to Information, 2008, at Chapter 1, Article 1

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

⁵³⁾ Official Information Act, 1997, Sections 4 and 9

⁵⁴⁾ Law on Principles and Guarantees for Freedom of Information, 1997, Article 8

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

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

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

⁵⁷ Fundamental Act on the Duty to Grant Information, 1987, § 2

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

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

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

⁶¹ Access to Public Information Act, 2005, Article 4(2)

⁶² The Act on the Right of Access to Information, 2003, Article 3.

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

⁶³ Law on Free Access to Information, 1993, Article 3(1)

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

⁶⁵ Public Information Act, 2000, Article 1

⁶⁶ Public Information Act, 2000, Article 4

⁶⁷ Act on the Openness of Government Activities, 1999, at Chapter 3, Section 9

⁶⁸ Freedom of Access to Administrative Documents and Reuse of Public Information, 1978, Article 1

⁶⁹ The General Administrative Code of Georgia, 2000, Article 37

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

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

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

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

Ireland	Every person. ⁷⁴			
Italy				Any person who has an interest to safeguard in legally relevant situations. ⁷⁵
Kosovo	“every natural and legal person to have access, without discrimination on any grounds [...]” ⁷⁶ “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’).” ⁷⁷			
Latvia	Article 100 gives everyone the right. Any private person (natural or legal). ⁷⁸			
Liechtenstein	Individuals. Informing the population. ⁷⁹			
Lithuania		Citizens, citizens of a member state of the European Economic Area Agreement, an		

⁷⁴ Freedom of Information Act, 1997, Article 6(1)

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

⁷⁶ Law on Access to Public Documents, 2010, at Chapter I, Article 1

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

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

⁷⁹ 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. ⁸⁰		
Macedonia	Any natural or legal person. ⁸¹			
Moldova	Any person. ⁸²			
Montenegro	Any natural or legal person. ⁸³			
Netherlands	Any person. ⁸⁴			
Norway	Everyone. Any person. ⁸⁵			
Poland	Each person. ⁸⁶			
Portugal			Citizens. ⁸⁷	
Romania	Any person. ⁸⁸			

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

⁸¹ Law on Free Access to Information of Public Character, 2006, Article 4

⁸² Moldova ATI Law 2000, Art. 4(1).

⁸³ The Law on Free Access to Information, 2005, Article 1

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

⁸⁵ The Freedom of Information Act, 1970, § 2

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

⁸⁷ Law of Access to Administrative Documents, 1993, at Chapter I, Article 1

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

Russia			Citizens and legal entities. ⁸⁹	
Serbia	Everyone. ⁹⁰ 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. ⁹¹			
Slovakia	Everybody shall have the right. ⁹² Any person or organization.			
Slovenia	Everyone. ⁹³ Legal entities or natural persons. ⁹⁴			
Spain			Citizens. ⁹⁵	
Sweden		Every Swedish subject and resident.		
Switzerland	Every person. ⁹⁶ Any person.			
Turkey			Citizens and legal persons. Foreigners also have a right to	

⁸⁹ Russia ATI Law, Art. 1(3).

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

⁹¹ 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

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

⁹³ Constitution, 1991, Articles 14 and 39

⁹⁴ Access to Public Information Act, 2005, Article 5

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

⁹⁶ 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. ⁹⁷	
Ukraine			All citizens of Ukraine, juridical persons and governmental bodies have the right. ⁹⁸	
United Kingdom	Any person. ⁹⁹ "Person" includes a body of persons corporate or unincorporate. ¹⁰⁰			
Subtotal - 42				

⁹⁷ Turkish Law on the Right to Information, Law 4982, 2003, Part 2, Article 4

⁹⁸ 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>

⁹⁹ Freedom of Information Act, 2000, Article 1

¹⁰⁰ Interpretation Act, 1978, Schedule 1

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

TOTAL				
89	29	4	11	2

¹⁰¹ Freedom of Information Law, 5758-1998, §1.

¹⁰² Freedom of Information Law, 5758-1998, §12.

¹⁰³ Access to Information Law, 2007, Article 7