



Ministry
of Defence

J9 Secretariat
Permanent Joint Headquarters
(United Kingdom)
Northwood Headquarters
Sandy Lane
NORTHWOOD
Middlesex
HA6 3HP

Email: UKStratCom-PJHQ-J9-FOI-Mbx@mod.gov.uk

Ref: FOI2022/08365

31 August 2022

Ms Nina Cross
request-877749-675db93a@whatdotheyknow.com

Dear Ms Cross,

Thank you for your email of 12th July 2022 requesting the information as follows:

- “1. Please identify the documentation or procedure that exists to demonstrate if the Ukrainian individuals arriving for training in the UK entered the Ukrainian military on a voluntary basis and not through conscription?”*
- 2. Please identify the documentation or procedure that exists to demonstrate that the Ukrainian individuals arriving for training in the UK are doing so on a voluntary basis.*
- 3. Please identify any policy or documentation that would prevent Ukrainian individuals arriving for military training in the UK from applying for asylum?*
- 4. Please identify if the movements of the Ukrainian individuals will be restricted to the military basis designated for training or whether they will have the right or ability of any free movement?*
- 5. What procedures, if any, will be carried out by the British authorities to identify where Ukrainian individuals are sent following their training in the UK and what happens to these individuals once they are sent back to Ukraine?*
- 6. Is there any policy or document showing that only Ukrainian men will be trained in the UK or does the training include Ukrainian women?”*

We are treating your correspondence as a request for information under the Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) 2000.

A search for the information has now been completed within the Ministry of Defence, and we can confirm that some of the information in scope of your request is held.

1. *Please identify the documentation or procedure that exists to demonstrate if the Ukrainian individuals arriving for training in the UK entered the Ukrainian military on a voluntary basis and not through conscription?*

We can confirm that no documentation or procedure exists for assessing the status of individuals sent to the UK by the Ukrainian Military.

2. *Please identify the documentation or procedure that exists to demonstrate that the Ukrainian individuals arriving for training in the UK are doing so on a voluntary basis.*

We can confirm that no documentation or procedure exists for assessing the status of individuals sent to the UK by the Ukrainian Military.

3. *Please identify any policy or documentation that would prevent Ukrainian individuals arriving for military training in the UK from applying for asylum?*

This would contravene the 1954 Refugee Convention of which the UK is a signatory, as such no UK policy exists which would prevent individuals applying for asylum.

4. *Please identify if the movements of the Ukrainian individuals will be restricted to the military basis designated for training or whether they will have the right or ability of any free movement?*

The Ukrainian personnel are to remain in camp or on designated exercise areas throughout the training package.

5. *What procedures, if any, will be carried out by the British authorities to identify where Ukrainian individuals are sent following their training in the UK and what happens to these individuals once they are sent back to Ukraine?*

The UK does not track where individuals are sent once they have returned to the Ukrainian Military's Duty of Care.

6. *Is there any policy or document showing that only Ukrainian men will be trained in the UK or does the training include Ukrainian women?*

There is no UK policy determining the gender requirements of individuals sent to the UK by the Ukrainian military for training.

To note, we received an email from you, dated 22nd August, to withdraw the following question from your original request:

“What is the standard length of time a British soldier would train before being deployed to the front lines in a war zone?”

If you have any queries regarding the content of this letter, please contact this office in the first instance.

If you wish to complain about the handling of your request, or the content of this response, you can request an independent internal review by contacting the Information Rights Compliance team, Ground Floor, MOD Main Building, Whitehall, SW1A 2HB (e-mail [CIO-](#)

FOI-IR@mod.gov.uk). Please note that any request for an internal review should be made within 40 working days of the date of this response.

If you remain dissatisfied following an internal review, you may raise your complaint directly to the Information Commissioner under the provisions of Section 50 of the Freedom of Information Act. Please note that the Information Commissioner will not normally investigate your case until the MOD internal review process has been completed. The Information Commissioner can be contacted at: Information Commissioner's Office, Wycliffe House, Water Lane, Wilmslow, Cheshire, SK9 5AF. Further details of the role and powers of the Information Commissioner can be found on the Commissioner's website at <https://ico.org.uk/>.

Yours sincerely,

PJHQ J9 Secretariat