



Freedom of Information Request reference [023-075]

1 message

MTRS FOIA <mtrsfoia@manchester.ac.uk>

23 February 2023 at 14:28

To: [REDACTED]

Dear [REDACTED]

Thank you for your request for information received by The University of Manchester on 08 February 2023 which was as follows (numbered for ease):

I am in possession of the majority of the legal documentation governing the UK's 30 Confucius Institutes, that is, agreements between the relevant British universities and Chinese entities.

One common theme in these agreements is a clause seeming to demand that staff from the People's Republic of China (PRC) who work at the Confucius Institutes in the UK should 'follow Chinese law' whilst on British soil, or that the Institute's activities (as carried out by staff) should not contravene Chinese law.

Recently, some students at Newcastle University sent an FOI request to their university asking whether staff from the PRC have indeed to follow Chinese law on campus. Newcastle's response was to state unequivocally that "Chinese staff in the UK must still abide by Chinese law as well as UK law."

My FOI request is as follows:

- 1. Do the staff from the PRC at the University's Confucius Institute have to abide by Chinese law on campus?*
- 2. Has the University entered into agreements that demand as much?*

The University has now considered your request and our response is as follows.

1. The University and Confucius Institute do not stipulate this.
2. No.

I trust that this information is of use to you.

Kind regards



[Redacted] | Information Governance Office | Directorate of Compliance and Risk
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| www.manchester.ac.uk

Please contact me via Teams or email as I may not be in the office to take your call.

Have you refreshed your **Data Protection & Cyber Security training**? Details of how staff can access the new course, are on the following IGO StaffNet page: <https://www.staffnet.manchester.ac.uk/igo/training-and-support/>