

Translated from Norwegian

**From:** The Royal Norwegian Embassy in Jakarta <emb.jakarta@mfa.no>

**Sent:** 2 October 2018 10:38

**To:** Siri Gedde-Dahl <siri.gedde-dahl@dagbladet.no>

**Subject:** RE: Request for access from the Dagbladet newspaper.

Hi Siri,

It is true that the embassy in Jakarta receives and processes visas for Indonesian seafarers who are going to work on board vessels in Norway. The embassy processes visa applications for a seafarer's visa according to the current guidelines. In special cases, we may forward applications to the Norwegian Directorate of Immigration for processing.

When it comes to this type of case, Section 9, fourth paragraph of the Norwegian Regulations relating to the Freedom of Information Act state that exemptions from access may be made for records and documents in individual cases under the Norwegian Immigration Act, which includes employment contracts in such visa cases. The Norwegian Directorate of Immigration's guidelines for requests for access (RS 2016-006) are also restrictive. In the assessment of transparency, there is a general exemption provision for visa matters, among other things. Therefore, based on this we do not grant access to visa applications.

In the system we use, it is not possible to select specific seafarer's visas, but we are investigating whether it is possible to set up statistics on the number of applicants per year concerning seafarers' affairs in other ways, in other words manually. Many thousands of general visa applications have been received during the said period, so this is time-consuming.

As for the employment contracts to which the embassy reacted, the National Criminal Investigation Service (Kripos) was informed in 2016.

Regards

Ronny Valstad

Head of admin and consular, Royal Norwegian Embassy in Jakarta

<https://www.norway.no/en/indonesia>