



# Official Secrets Act 1989

## 1989 CHAPTER 6

### 13 Other interpretation provisions.

(1) In this Act—

“disclose” and “disclosure”, in relation to a document or other article, include parting with possession of it;

“international organisation” means, subject to subsections (2) and (3) below, an organisation of which only States are members and includes a reference to any organ of such an organisation;

“prescribed” means prescribed by an order made by the Secretary of State;

“State” includes the government of a State and any organ of its government and references to a State other than the United Kingdom include references to any territory outside the United Kingdom.

(2) In section 12(2)(b) above the reference to an international organisation includes a reference to any such organisation whether or not one of which only States are members and includes a commercial organisation.

(3) In determining for the purposes of subsection (1) above whether only States are members of an organisation, any member which is itself an organisation of which only States are members, or which is an organ of such an organisation, shall be treated as a State.

**Changes to legislation:**

There are currently no known outstanding effects for the Official Secrets Act 1989, Section 13.