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**Open letter to Mrs Zypries
Minister for Justice in Germany
Sunday, the 15th of February**

Dear Madam,

As you know, for years long, foreign parents have been fighting in order to get back their children, abducted to Germany.

The fight aimed at seeing those children again is, usually, a uphill fight, a lost battle, when those parents did not do anything wrong. The only thing which can be reproached to those parents is that they are not German, thus to be dangerous. Why are they dangerous? We wonder.

The right of children to have a relationship with both their parents, and for the parents to have a contact with their children, that right is part of the Chart of children rights, that Germany signed, but does not apply.

You have in front of you parents like Sabine Vander Elst, mother of Maëliss Umhey; like Pascal Gallez, father of Antoine Gallez, whose name was illegally changed in Denis Kamran, before the German officials lost all trace of the child, to the point that we can ask if Antoine is still alive.

You have in front of you parents and children who are suffering of unjust decisions, made by family courts and by the infamous Jugendamt – by officials whose lack of bravery, whose laziness, whose incompetence and lack of control are hidden under the sweet lies that everything is made for the children well being.

You have in front of you, further, parents who are not allowed, in Germany, to access their file. Their lawyer cannot access the files either. Files, in cases of binational abductions, should be made easy to reach to the parties, so that procedures can be made. But in Germany, the foreign parent is not only robbed of his/her child; the foreign parent is robbed of a fundamental right to Justice.

The half German child, too...

On the 2nd of May 2008, we stopped in front of the door of the German Central Authority, in the course of our walk from Brussels to Strasburg. We had asked, for months, to access our files. An anonymous pen pusher from the GCA refused us that fundamental right. Is that Germany today?

On the 13th of July 2008, we met you, in order to introduce you to that problematic. After having shown a certain surprise, in front of the elements we

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had brought to your attention, you assured us that such a "mistake" – as it could only be a mistake – would soon be rectified. You assured us that, soon, if we could not have any contact with our abducted children, at least, we would be able to access our files.

That meeting was followed by an exchange of mails and letters with, among other, Mr Ralf Kleindieck, your director of Cabinet. We have, recently, finally, received the answer from a could-not-care-less official who, without the smallest embarrassment, is making of your (recorded) promises, a heap of lies.

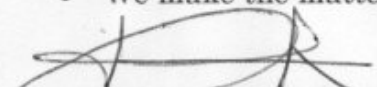
Some mails coming from your Ministry (including the ones of that official, Mr Versteegen; but we are not stigmatizing him: until now, all the officials of the GCA acted according to that same pattern) show us how much some of your officials despise, out of laziness, stupidity, sadism or stupidity, the fundamental rights of the peoples of Europe, of your friends, of your brothers:

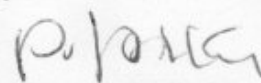
- One uses the most extraordinary law in order to refuse us our right to access our file
- One explains that the abducting parent must be protected, so we cannot check our file
- We are being offered to check our file (Goodness, what a progress...) but only when cleaned of anything which will not be our messages... and we shall, further, need to pay 100 euro in order to be allowed to read... nothing.
- We are being asked to pay the costs for having had the cheek to ask to check our file.

Today, we are not ready to wait longer. We sincerely hoped that the German authorities would be able to clean the mess, and to exit the officials which are making of human lives, miseries.

But in front of what has been promised, and the lack of respect of those promises, we are writing to your attention and, at the same time:

- We inform you that we are writing a petition to the EP, concerning this case
- We inform you we showed the letters of Mr Versteegen to various officials, German and non-German, and to lawyers. All were shocked.
- We inform you that we refuse to pay the costs that your employees are requesting.
- We invite you to meet us as soon as possible.
- We make the matter public, and inform the press.


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