

Bijlage bij antwoord op vraag 4

De passage uit het transcript van de briefing luidt als volgt:

“Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I’m HP Schreinemachers. I’m counselor for justice and home affairs at the Netherlands Embassy.

Just for the record, I wanted to make one comment, please, if you allow me. And that is that contrary to the impression that the panel might have given you, the Netherlands takes the fight against child sex trafficking very seriously. And we could have commented if we would have been invited to this panel. But it wasn’t until we protested not being included on this one-sided panel that you came back last Monday offering us the opportunity to ask the first question and send in a written statement. Well, since just asking a question or giving a short remark like this one doesn’t compensate for the one-sidedness, we declined to do so. We did, however, send in the letters that the minister of security and justice has sent to the Dutch Parliament, and I would refer to them. Thank you.

REP. SMITH: Could I ask you, please, if you don’t mind, was there anything you heard today that caused you to rethink that perhaps there is a very credible story here?

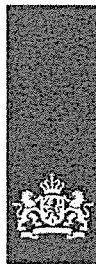
Q: I think that I’m not on the panel, so that’s not the way to address questions to me. But I – (inaudible) –

REP. SMITH: No, it’s a give-and-take. This is not a hearing. And you have the floor, and I’m asking you a very serious question.

Q: And I’m – I was in the process of giving you an answer, but I wanted to make that clear first. And that is that the information that has been given today is – has all been available. And therefore, I think it’s good that Mrs. van der Plas indicated that she’s going to take this – what is now amounting to a public trial – to the court of appeals, and I think that’s where it belongs.

Thank you.”

Bijlagen bij antwoord op vraag 6



Kingdom of the Netherlands

The Honorable Frank Wolf
241 Cannon House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

4200 Linnean Avenue NW
Washington, DC 20008
USA
<http://www.the-netherlands.org>

Contact

T (+1) 202-274-2501
F (+1) 202-966-4339
was-cdp@minbuza.nl

Our reference

was-cdp/061-2012

Cc

See below

Encl.

--

Date August 17, 2012

Re Sexual exploitation of children and child pornography

Dear Representative Wolf,

It has come to my attention that on 31 July 2012 you wrote a joint letter to the Chair of the European Parliament's Delegation for Relations with the US, Mr. Christian Ehler, 'out of concern for the integrity of the European Union's ongoing efforts to combat the sexual exploitation of children and child pornography.' In your letter, you state that 'the Netherlands may be susceptible to becoming a "weak-link" in the chain of anti-sex trafficking efforts.'

The Netherlands highly regrets both the content and purpose of this letter. The importance of the fight against human trafficking, sexual exploitation and child abuse cannot be overstated. The Netherlands is a strong ally of the US in this fight and was recognized as such by the US State Department in its latest Trafficking in Persons report. It hailed us for our international leadership role and granted the Netherlands a 'Tier 1' rating.

As allies in this important campaign, the Netherlands values your commitment and that of the United States Congress as a whole. It was in this spirit that the Netherlands embassy in Washington responded to your request for information regarding the two matters you raise in your letter to the European Parliament. You were provided with extensive information to allow you to better understand the facts and to form an opinion on that basis. At the same time, the embassy offered to meet with you in order to exchange views on these matters and to provide further

information as appropriate. It is unfortunate that you were not available for such a meeting.

Date
August 16, 2012
Our reference
was-cdp/061-2012

In your letter, you raise unsubstantiated doubts about the Netherlands' legal system. You suggest that neither the Dutch Public Prosecution Service nor the Dutch courts act independently. Any such implication is completely unfounded and must be dismissed entirely. Moreover, you neglect to mention the fact that the Dutch parliament has probed the issue on several occasions and has been informed by subsequent Ministers of (Security and) Justice.

It is important to correct your letter to the European Parliament on a number of points:

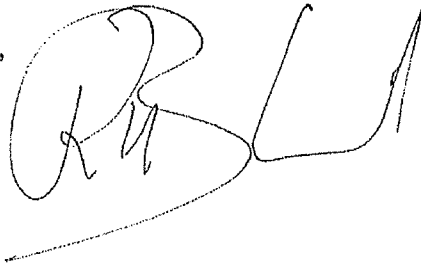
- *Vereniging Martijn* was banned and effectively dissolved by a district court at the request of the Public Prosecution Service. The Dutch Ministry of Justice has never taken any action to protect *Vereniging Martijn*, either by invoking the right to freedom of expression or otherwise.
- The Public Prosecution Service in the Netherlands has the full and independent authority to investigate any criminal allegation against any person within its jurisdiction. The allegations against Mr. Demmink were thoroughly investigated by the Public Prosecution Service, in full accordance with the Dutch Criminal Code and Code of Criminal Procedure. The Public Prosecution Service decided that the accusations were unfounded. Furthermore, it established that Mr. Demmink was not in Turkey in the period in question. Decisions not to prosecute were upheld by the court of appeal.

Our common cause of combating human trafficking, sexual exploitation and child abuse is not served by statements based on misperceptions, misrepresentations or accusations that have been proven to be false. Therefore, these issues do not belong on the agenda of any meeting between the US Congress and the European Parliament. The Netherlands will convey this message to Mr. Ehler.

The Netherlands is and will remain a dedicated ally in all international efforts to combat sex trafficking, child pornography and the sexual exploitation of children. We want to continue our dialogue with all parties involved in this important endeavor, including yourself. We therefore look forward to meeting with you at the earliest opportunity.

Date
August 16, 2012
Our reference
was-cdp/061-2012

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'R.S. Bekink', written over a horizontal line.

R.S. Bekink
Ambassador

Cc:

- The Honorable Cliff Stearns,
Chairman of the US Delegation, Transatlantic Legislators Dialogue
- The Honorable Ileana Ros-Lehtinen,
Chairman House Foreign Affairs Committee
- The Honorable Howard Berman,
Ranking member House Foreign Affairs Committee
- The Honorable Dan Burton,
Chairman European and Eurasian Subcommittee
- The Honorable Gregory Meeks,
Ranking Member, Europe and Eurasian Subcommittee
- The Honorable Bill Huizenga,
Co-chair Dutch Caucus
- The Honorable Chris van Hollen,
Co-chair Dutch Caucus

From:
Sent: dinsdag 24 juli 2012 21:32
To: carson.middelton@mail.house.gov
Cc:
Subject: Statement Request

Dear Carson,

I understand that you contacted the Netherlands Embassy seeking a statement concerning Mr. Demmink, which I am happy to provide as follows:

The Dutch Public Prosecutor's Office has the full and independent authority to investigate any criminal allegation against any person within their jurisdiction. The allegations against Mr. Demmink have been thoroughly investigated by the Dutch Public Prosecutor's Office, in full accordance with the Dutch Penal Code. An earlier decision not to prosecute was upheld by the Court of Appeal.

On February 2, 2012, the Public Prosecutor's Office issued a statement in the latest allegations, in which it concluded that there was no evidence whatsoever indicating that Mr. Demmink had engaged in the alleged behavior.

Best regards,

Senior Advisor / Congressional Liaison
Political Department
Royal Netherlands Embassy
4200 Linnean Avenue NW
Washington, DC 20008

Email: _____
www.netherlands-embassy.org
@embassytweets

From: Schreinemachers, H.P.
Sent: dinsdag 3 juli 2012 16:52
To: 'mary.okeeffe@mail.house.gov'; Mark A. Walker (mark.walker@mail.house.gov)
Cc:
Subject: Hannaford article
Importance: High

Dear Mary & Mark,

Thanks for the opportunity to give the Dutch views on the Hannaford article. In addition to the conversation, I promised to provide you with some additional information on court cases, on the Bakker Schut Stichting and on the list of websites, and give you a sense of the content of the articles you provided me with.

1. *Court cases* - After the first time the Public Prosecutors' Office (PPO) decided there was no evidence to prosecute, Baybasin/Van der Plas went to Court to try to force the PPO to prosecute. The Court ruled in 2008 that there was no credible evidence on the basis of which the PPO should take the case any further. In 2011 Baybasin/Van der Plas filed a new complaint that was again dismissed by the PPO on Feb. 2, 2012 after careful evaluation. Baybasin/Van der Plas haven't turned to the Court again to have this decision overturned (something in our system he could have done and still can do at any time it pleases them). This is proof that the statement in the article that there has been no accountability in a court of law, is false. The case has been reviewed and can still be reviewed. As I already indicated, filing the article in the Congressional Records would give it some credibility that it really does not deserve and would question the independence and professionalism of both the PPO and the court system of a close and longstanding ally.
2. *Bakker Schut Stichting* - The Bakker Schut Stichting is a foundation that has been established by Adèle van der Plas with the aim to research cases in which people's civil rights have been violated by corrupt governments. The only files on the website are those on Demmink and Baybasin.
3. *List of websites* - the unfounded story is kept alive at the predominantly conspiracy-prone websites listed.
4. *Newspaper articles*

De Telegraaf, 21 June 2008 -

De Telegraaf is the Netherlands' largest newspaper. The header of the article is "Is D. victim of a mafia plot?".

Katholiek Nieuwsblad, February 11, 2011

KN is a small weekly with predominantly catholic news items and opinions. Header: "Does the PPO want to know the truth?"

AD (Algemeen Dagblad), September 6, 2011

De AD is a "national turned regional" newspaper. The header: "Joris D. cornered"

All three articles tell basically the same story:

- Adèle van der Plas claims that criminal Baybasin, who has been sentenced to life in prison, has been set up by the Turkish government who wanted him behind bars and was able to strike a deal because it had derogatory information on Mr. Demmink.
- Ms. Van der Plas also claims that the PPO has failed to seriously investigate and that it all is a cover-up.
- The Ministry and the PPO and Mr. Demmink's lawyer claim there is no case, there are no credible witnesses, and Mr. Demmink was not in Turkey at the time of the alleged offenses, even never after 1981.
- Subsequent Ministers of Justice have strongly supported Mr. Demmink.

The articles have been published at different stages. The Telegraaf article came out after Van der Plas had collected video statements of self-declared victims. Both the PPO and the Court have since come to the conclusion that the tapes by itself do not provide credible evidence. The KN article has been published after a special committee that looks into alleged wrongful convictions, had come to the conclusion that there was no ground for reopening the Baybasin case. The AD article was published when Baybasin filed a new complaint against Mr. Demmink with the PPO.

Further, I attached a slightly modified version of the draft that I handed out last Friday.

If you have any further questions, please let me know. I trust that in case you do not immediately dismiss the request, we will have another opportunity to discuss. Please share the information with the staff of Rep. Smith as well. I would also like to get in touch with them. Could you let me know who handles this? Thank you, HP

HP Schreinemachers

Counselor for Justice and Home Affairs

.....
Embassy of the Kingdom of the Netherlands
4200 Linnean Avenue NW | 20008 | Washington, DC
.....

<http://www.netherlands-embassy.org>

From:
Sent: maandag 30 juli 2012 23:35
To: justin.h.johnson@mail.house.gov
Cc:
Subject: Demmink statement

Dear Justin,

As requested, here is the statement we have provided regarding the allegations concerning Joris Demmink:

The Dutch Public Prosecutor's Office has the full and independent authority to investigate any criminal allegation against any person within their jurisdiction. The allegations against Mr. Demmink have been thoroughly investigated by the Dutch Public Prosecutor's Office, in full accordance with the Dutch Penal Code. An earlier decision not to prosecute was upheld by the Court of Appeal.

On February 2, 2012, the Public Prosecutor's Office issued a statement in the latest allegations, in which it concluded that there was no evidence whatsoever indicating that Mr. Demmink had engaged in the alleged behavior.

Best regards,

Senior Advisor / Congressional Liaison
Political Department
Royal Netherlands Embassy
4200 Linnean Avenue NW
Washington, DC 20008

www.netherlands-embassy.org
[@embassytweets](#)

From:
Sent: dinsdag 31 juli 2012 14:55
To: carson.middleton@mail.house.gov
Cc:
Subject: FW: Statement - Demmink

Dear Carson,

Martin Bruinsma from the Ministry of Justice is working on getting me the answers to your questions. He will be providing me with a two-pager in English either later today or tomorrow that I will forward to you. Unfortunately, the underlying documents are in Dutch (including a letter to Parliament, as well as the verdict in the Martijn case – which is 16 pages long.) Martin is making an effort to get those documents translated, and again, I (or someone in my stead) will forward those to you once the translation has been completed.

I appreciate your patience (in light of the summer vacation period in the NL as well), but wanted to let you know that our response to your questions is forthcoming.

For your information, I will be out of the office beginning on Thursday, August 2nd, and will be back on Monday, August 13th. My colleague, HP Schreinemachers (Counselor for Justice) will be back in the office on Monday, August 6th.

Best regards,

Senior Advisor / Congressional Liaison
Political Department
Royal Netherlands Embassy
4200 Linnean Avenue NW
Washington, DC 20008

www.netherlands-embassy.org
[@embassytweets](https://twitter.com/embassytweets)

From:
Sent: donderdag 26 juli 2012 13:33
To: carson.middleton@mail.house.gov
Subject: Statement - Demmink

Hi Carson,

I just wanted to let you know that I received your request for additional information and have been in contact with the Ministry in the NL about it. I am awaiting a response. I apologize for the delay, but it is summer vacation time in the NL!

I hope to have something for you tomorrow.

Best regards,

From: >
Sent: woensdag 1 augustus 2012 15:19
To: carson.middleton@mail.house.gov
Cc:
Subject: MJ_MINISTER_2012_1_aug-2_ENG
Attachments: MJ_MINISTER_2012_1_aug-2_ENG.doc

Carson,

Attached is a response to your request for additional information regarding statements from SG Demmink's superiors and additional information regarding the case against Martijn.

As mentioned in a previous email, an English translation of the supporting documentation, including the verdict, is being prepared. We will get that to you as soon as possible.

I will be out of the office beginning tomorrow (until Aug.13th), but my colleague HP Schreinemachers (Counselor for Justice) will be back in the office on Monday.

Best regards,

Senior Advisor / Congressional Liaison
Political Department
Royal Netherlands Embassy
4200 Linnean Avenue NW
Washington, DC 20008

www.netherlands-embassy.org
[@embassytweets](#)

boundaries, I will make every effort to establish whether starting points can be found for taking action against the association".

The possibilities of dealing with Vereniging Martijn under criminal or civil law have been subject of political and public debate for some time. A recurring topic of discussion was whether sufficient starting points could be found to deal with the association under criminal or civil law. Prosecution was deemed not very likely to succeed on the basis of case law of the Supreme Court. A ban under civil law is subject to very strict conditions, partly in view of the fundamental right of association. For a long time, the Public Prosecution Service was of the opinion that there were insufficient starting points for dealing with the association under criminal or under civil law. On 15 December 2011, the Public Prosecution Service submitted a request for a ban on and dissolution of Vereniging Martijn making use of civil law, on the basis of further investigation, and also pursuant to the fact that the chairman of Martijn had since been convicted of owning child pornography. On 27 June 2012, the District Court banned and dissolved Vereniging Martijn. The District Court considered the activities of the association to be contrary to public order. Vereniging Martijn has submitted an appeal.

In view of the letters to Parliament, all possibilities of criminal prosecution or having Vereniging Martijn banned on the basis of civil law have been dealt with in the public debate with Parliament. It was explained each time on what grounds the Public Prosecution Service arrived at its decisions. The Ministry did not take any action to protect Vereniging Martijn by invoking the right to freedom of expression or otherwise.

Annexes:

- Relevant passages from the judgment of the District Court pertaining to the ban on and dissolution of Vereniging Martijn

2.6. When assessing the request, the District Court takes into consideration that, in view of Article 8 of the Constitution and Article 11 of the European Convention on the Protection of Human Rights and Fundamental Freedoms, the right of association and freedom of expression are fundamental principles of the Dutch state. The District Court will therefore exercise restraint when applying Article 2:20 of the Dutch Civil Code and will only assume contravention of public order if the generally accepted foundations of our legal system are violated (...).

2.14 The District Court holds that the activities of Vereniging Martijn (...) demonstrate that Vereniging Martijn *strives* for its members to be able to have sexual contact with children and that *for this purpose* Vereniging Martijn glorifies said sexual contact and presents it as something that is or should be considered normal and acceptable. This striving constitutes a serious breach of the fundamental values within our society and it is consequently a violation of our legal order (...). In doing so, Vereniging Martijn harms the rights of children. Protecting the rights of children unmistakably constitutes one of the most essential principles of our legal order. The Dutch state should, moreover, not offer any scope for that violation from the perspective of international law.

General statement:

The Dutch Public Prosecutor's Office has the full and independent authority to investigate any criminal allegation against any person within their jurisdiction. The allegations against Mr. Demmink have been thoroughly investigated by the Public Prosecutor's Office, in full accordance with the Dutch Penal Code and the Code of Penal Procedure. An earlier decision not to prosecute was upheld by the Court of Appeal.

On February 2, 2012, the Public Prosecutor's Office issued a statement on the latest allegations, in which it concluded that there was no evidence whatsoever indicating that Mr. Demmink had engaged in the alleged behaviour. The Dutch Minister of Justice has informed Parliament accordingly

Response to the two specific questions:

1. Statements from Ministers:

- In answers to parliamentary questions, former Minister of Justice Hirsch Ballin stated on July 5th 2007: "I conclude, on the basis of the abovementioned facts, that there is no prima facie evidence of the accuracy of old or new accusations against the aforementioned civil servant".
- In answers to parliamentary questions, former Minister of Justice Hirsch Ballin stated on July 16th 2007: "My conclusion is that no foundation for the accuracy of the allegations against the civil servants of the Ministry of Justice mentioned in the police report has been demonstrated".
- In a letter to Parliament on February 2nd 2012, Minister of Security and Justice Opstelten stated: "The Public Prosecution Service has informed me that there is no reason for initiating a criminal investigation into the Secretary General of my Ministry pursuant to the police report of the sexual abuse of a minor in Turkey in the second half of the nineties, nor on the basis of a new report made by H.B. who has been condemned to life imprisonment (...)." My conclusion is that any foundation for the accuracy of the allegations against the civil servant has not been demonstrated".

2. Martijn

Minister Opstelten of Security and Justice informed Parliament as follows with regard to the Vereniging Martijn in a letter dated 5 September 2011:

"I would state first and foremost that Vereniging Martijn is an association whose aims I reject utterly (...). Combating child abuse and child pornography has the highest priority for me (...) I think it is a good thing that the Public Prosecution Service continues to examine closely and actively whether the association operates within the boundaries of the law. I would note in this connection that the freedom of association and assembly is a fundamental principle of a democracy based on the rule of law. Those fundamental rights also apply with respect to groups whose ideas I wish to have nothing to do with. However, these fundamental rights are not absolute and legal restriction is possible. Within those

- 2.16. The above matters, considered in their mutual relationship, lead to the following. The District Court holds first and foremost that propagating opinions that are undesirable in the eyes of many people does not constitute a ground for banning and dissolving Vereniging Martijn. The right of association and the right to freedom of speech apply for everyone and consequently also for those who have sexual feelings for children. This does not alter the fact, however, that the activities of Vereniging Martijn constitute a violation of the generally accepted foundations of our legal system and that these activities are contrary to public order. The District Court will ban and dissolve Vereniging Martijn on that ground.

From: [redacted]
Sent: maandag 6 augustus 2012 19:36
To: Hollabaugh, Allison (CSCE)
Cc:
Subject: RE: Hannaford article
Attachments: MJ_MINISTER_2012_1_aug_3_brief_ENG.DOCX

Dear Allison,

I had planned to get back to you during my vacation, but unfortunately technology failed (my work email app stopped working). Re your questions below: research on missions and passports has been concluded. The translation of the sentence "De Rijksrecherche heeft behalve de heer Demmink zelf, ook een aantal getuigen gehoord en onderzoek gedaan naar dienstreizen en paspoorten in de betreffende periode." therefore reads as follows: "The Rijksrecherche has in addition to Mr Demmink himself, also heard a number of witnesses, and has conducted research on missions and passports in the relevant period."

This is what the Minister of Security and Justice wrote in a letter to our Parliament (I attached the full letter, translated in English for your convenience): "the National Police Internal Investigations Department [...] carried out an "exploratory" investigation into the facts, in which persons were interviewed and possible travel movements of the person concerned in the indicated period in Turkey were investigated. This did not produce any confirmation whatsoever that the person concerned would have been in Turkey in the period in question."

Do not hesitate to reach out if you have further questions.

Best, HP

HP Schreinemachers
Counselor for Justice and Home Affairs

.....
Embassy of the Kingdom of the Netherlands
4200 Linnean Avenue NW | 20008 | Washington, DC
.....

<http://www.netherlands-embassy.org>

From: Hollabaugh, Allison (CSCE) [mailto:AHollabaugh@mail.house.gov]
Sent: donderdag 19 juli 2012 17:41
To: Schreinemachers, H.P.
Cc:
Subject: RE: Hannaford article

Dear Mr. Schreinemachers,

Thank you for your time last week and for your follow up email with the documentation. I very much appreciate having your perspective on the allegations swirling about, especially since I am unfamiliar with the Dutch legal system.

I have had a chance to go through the statement from the Prosecutor's office, and had a follow up question:

My translation of the following sentence leads to the question of whether the follow up research is being done on missions and passports, or has it been concluded? If I remember correctly, you indicated that the research had been concluded. It is probably a poor translation issue on this end. But if further research is coming, I would be most happy to receive it.

“De Rijksrecherche heeft behalve de heer Demmink zelf, ook een aantal getuigen gehoord en onderzoek gedaan naar dienstreizen en paspoorten in de betreffende periode.” (The Rijksrecherche has in addition to the Mr Demmink itself, but also a number of witnesses heard, and **research is being done on missions and passports in the relevant period.**)

I have let the individual who brought the issue to Mr. Smith's attention know that you would like to be in contact with her.

I hope you are having a restful holiday. Please feel free to postpone reply until your return.

Best wishes,

Allison

Allison Hollabaugh
Counsel
Commission on Security and Cooperation in Europe (CSCE)
(202) 226-8664

From: Schreinemachers, H.P.
Sent: Friday, July 13, 2012 6:58 PM
To: Hollabaugh, Allison (CSCE)
Cc:
Subject: Hannaford article
Importance: High

Dear Allison,

Thank you for reaching out to us. As promised, please find attached our response to the Hannaford article. The link to the public prosecutor's website is: <http://www.om.nl/onderwerpen/verkeer/@158303/strafrechtelijk/>.

We're grateful that you indicated that in such a sensitive (with all the knowledge that we have, we would even call it gravely unfair) matter and with the Netherlands being a longtime ally, you would give our Ambassador the opportunity to further discuss in case the Congressman would consider taking any action upon the information he received.

As indicated, we are as open and transparent as possible. We would appreciate it if you could discuss with Congressman Smith the option of providing us with the name of your informant or the NGO behind her, so at least we know where the allegations come from. If not, we would appreciate it when you would let her/them know that we of course would be willing to speak to her/them as well.

Have a good weekend, HP

HP Schreinemachers
Counselor for Justice and Home Affairs

.....
Embassy of the Kingdom of the Netherlands
4200 Linnean Avenue NW | 20008 | Washington, DC

From:
Sent: dinsdag 7 augustus 2012 17:11
To: Hollabaugh, Allison (CSCE)
Cc:
Subject: RE: Hannaford article

Allison, I left you a message on your voicemail earlier this morning. I have come across a press release stating that Congressman Smith together with two colleagues has written a letter to the European Parliament. For several reasons, I hope this is a hoax. The letter is nowhere to be found on the Internet. Further, I was under the impression that we were still in the process of providing you with all the necessary background information and that we would be given a chance to discuss further before the Congressman would take official action. Can you let me know what the status is on your end? Thanks, HP

HP Schreinemachers
Counselor for Justice and Home Affairs

.....
Embassy of the Kingdom of the Netherlands
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<http://www.netherlands-embassy.org>

From: Schreinemachers, H.P.
Sent: maandag 6 augustus 2012 13:36
To: 'Hollabaugh, Allison (CSCE)'
Cc:
Subject: RE: Hannaford article

Dear Allison,

I had planned to get back to you during my vacation, but unfortunately technology failed (my work email app stopped working). Re your questions below: research on missions and passports has been concluded. The translation of the sentence "De Rijksrecherche heeft behalve de heer Demmink zelf, ook een aantal getuigen gehoord en onderzoek gedaan naar dienstreizen en paspoorten in de betreffende periode." therefore reads as follows: "The Rijksrecherche has in addition to Mr Demmink himself, also heard a number of witnesses, and has conducted research on missions and passports in the relevant period."

This is what the Minister of Security and Justice wrote in a letter to our Parliament (I attached the full letter, translated in English for your convenience): "the National Police Internal Investigations Department [...] carried out an "exploratory" investigation into the facts, in which persons were interviewed and possible travel movements of the person concerned in the indicated period in Turkey were investigated. This did not produce any confirmation whatsoever that the person concerned would have been in Turkey in the period in question."

Do not hesitate to reach out if you have further questions.

Best, HP

HP Schreinemachers
Counselor for Justice and Home Affairs
.....

From:
Sent: dinsdag 7 augustus 2012 19:07
To: Hollabaugh, Allison (CSCE)
Cc:
Subject: FW: Demmink press coverage: Congress Recognizes The Egregious Suppression Of Global Justice Regarding Child Trafficking

Importance: High

Allison, as promised, media coverage as of this morning. HP

HP Schreinemachers
Counselor for Justice and Home Affairs
.....
Embassy of the Kingdom of the Netherlands
4200 Linnean Avenue NW | 20008 | Washington, DC
.....

<http://www.netherlands-embassy.org>

<http://www.marketwatch.com/story/congress-recognizes-the-egregious-suppression-of-global-justice-regarding-child-trafficking-2012-08-06>

<http://www.cnn.com/id/48539149>

<http://www.digitaljournal.com/pr/826590>

http://uspolitics.einnews.com/pr_news/108893206/congress-recognizes-the-egregious-suppression-of-global-justice-regarding-child-trafficking

<http://www.caringforourchildrenfoundation.org/?tag=joris-demmink>

<http://www.prnewswire.com/news-releases/congress-recognizes-the-egregious-suppression-of-global-justice-regarding-child-trafficking-165192696.html>

Congress Recognizes The Egregious Suppression Of Global Justice Regarding Child Trafficking

Published: Monday, 6 Aug 2012 | 6:17 PM ET Text Size

WASHINGTON, Aug. 6, 2012 /PRNewswire via COMTEX/ -- REQUESTING THAT THE EUROPEAN UNION INVESTIGATE Shared Hope International and The Rebecca Project are pleased to announce that the U.S. Congress has taken action regarding the lack of action of the European Union in investigating child sex trafficking in the pedophilia charges against Joris Demmink, a high ranking government official in The Netherlands, and requested this matter be broached at the next Interparliamentary meeting.

Congressmen Pitts (R-PA), Wolfe (R-VA), and Smith (R-NJ) state in a letter just delivered to EU Chairman Christian Ehler: "We write to you out of concern for the integrity of the European Union's ongoing efforts to combat the sexual exploitation of children and child pornography. As combating these crimes remains a top EU priority, we are alarmed by recent assertions of the Dutch Ministry of Security and Justice relating to the prosecution of the group 'Martijn' and allegations of child sex abuse against the ministry's secretary-general, Mr. Joris Demmink.

As you may be aware, Mr. Joris Demmink has been accused of child rape. It is asserted that Mr. Demmink traveled to Turkey in the late 1990's to carry out the abuse and rape of numerous victims, and furthermore, it has been asserted that Mr. Demmink used the power of his position to obstruct efforts to file complaints against him, and used investigations as a way to deter his accusers.

Mr. Demmink is accused of what could be considered child sex tourism, a form of human trafficking. Given the nature of the allegations against Mr. Demmink and his influence within the Ministry of Security and Justice, we are concerned that the Ministry may not be able to properly execute The Netherlands' responsibilities under the EU Decision 2004/68/JHA, the Framework Decision on combating the sexual exploitation of children... " Shared Hope International and The Rebecca Project are working to bring awareness to the global need to take seriously the threat presented to the world's children by perpetrators of child sex trafficking, and bring justice to the victims of Joris Demmink. Mr. Demmink has eluded investigation, raising grave questions about the seriousness with which governments are combating human trafficking and protecting child victims of sexual exploitation in their country and those where their citizens may travel as child sex tourists.

SOURCE Shared Hope International; The Rebecca Project

Copyright (C) 2012 PR Newswire. All rights reserved -O- KEYWORD: District of Columbia

Netherlands SUBJECT CODE: AVO

From:
Sent: woensdag 3 oktober 2012 19:39
To: Milosch, Mark
Cc: Hollabaugh, Allison (CSCE)
Subject: RE: Helsinki Comm. briefing on Child Sex Trafficking/ responding to your e-mail to Ms. Hollabaugh

Dear Mr. Milosch,

Thank you for your message. Since an opening question is insufficient counterweight to multiple panelists, we have decided to refrain from actively participating. We will, however, submit for the briefing record a translation of the letter on the case that has been sent to the Dutch Parliament today, and a copy of the letter that was sent earlier to Congressmen Smith, Wolf and Pitts. I will send these out when the translation is available, later today or tomorrow morning.

Regards,

HP Schreinemachers
Counselor for Justice and Home Affairs

.....
Embassy of the Kingdom of the Netherlands
4200 Linnean Avenue NW | 20008 | Washington, DC
.....

<http://www.netherlands-embassy.org>

From: Milosch, Mark [mailto:Mark.Milosch@mail.house.gov]
Sent: maandag 1 oktober 2012 13:02
To: Schreinemachers, H.P.
Cc: Hollabaugh, Allison (CSCE)
Subject: Helsinki Comm. briefing on Child Sex Trafficking/ responding to your e-mail to Ms. Hollabaugh

Dear Mr. Schreinemachers,

Thank you for the message you sent to Allison Hollabaugh, Counsel at the Helsinki commission, on Friday, and for the earlier meeting with Chairman Smith. Unfortunately that meeting did not put to rest the Chairman's concern that neither the key witnesses (Turkish policeman and the former Chief of Police of Istanbul) nor the primary victims (other than one victim) were interviewed as part of the Dutch investigations into the very serious allegations against Mr. Demmink. Consequently the Chairman has decided to move forward with the announced briefing.

Regarding your other views about the briefing, if the ambassador or government of the Netherlands would like to submit a statement for the briefing record, I would be happy to have that added to the written record. I'll attach the commission's guidelines for submissions. In addition, it is the commission's practice at briefings to take questions from the audience; that is, the briefing opens with statements from panelists, then moves into questions from commissioners and commission staff, then to questions from the audience, at which time embassy officials are free to pose questions to the panelists. We will give the ambassador or another embassy official the opportunity to ask the first question, and will extend him or her enough time to preface a question with a statement.

I hope this helps to address your concerns.

Regards,

Mark Milosch
Chief of Staff
Commission on Security and Cooperation in Europe
234 Ford House Ofc. Bldg.
202-225-1901
www.csce.gov

XXVII. COMMISSION HEARING PROCEDURES

Criteria for Materials to be Submitted for the Record

Materials meeting the following criteria will be considered for inclusion in the official record of Commission hearings and briefings. Submissions that do not meet these criteria may be excluded:

- Submissions may be no longer than 5 pages in length.
- They must be in English.
- They must be submitted electronically.
- They must be received by close-of-business (5:30 p.m., EST), two days after the hearing or briefing.
- They must address the specific subject of the briefing.
- They must not include personal invective or insult.
- If submitted after the time for the opening of the hearing or briefing, the text must read as though submitted by the opening of the hearing or briefing (i.e., it may not contain references to discussions at the hearing or briefing, or events subsequent to the beginning of the hearing or briefing.)

From: Schreinemachers, H.P. [mailto:hps@csce.gov]
Sent: Friday, September 28, 2012 06:31 PM
To: Hollabaugh, Allison (CSCE)
Subject: RE: Commission to Hold Briefing on Child Sex Trafficking

Allison,

Please allow me to share a personal observation (and thus not a formal Dutch position) that I will relay to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs. Last week the Ambassador and Congressman Smith discussed the allegations against Mr. Demmink. As the Ambassador indicated: the Dutch Public Prosecutor has on several occasions found these allegations to be without merit. These findings have been weighed and subsequently supported by Ministers of Justice of different political parties. Subsequent Parliaments of varying political majorities have seen no reason to doubt the work of the Public Prosecutor and to probe further. Recently, an Advocate General to our Supreme Court has extensively argued why he has no reason to believe in the conspiracy theory of a cover up. Further, the Ambassador explained that the complainants have the opportunity to take this to the Appeals Court, but have not done so in the past seven months. Despite all that, you have decided to hold this particular one-sided briefing.

Moreover, when we the Ambassador and the Congressman spoke, the briefing must have been in the making. I find it disheartening that the Congressman did not mention it and, again, did not give the

Ambassador the courtesy of expressing the Dutch opinion before the invitation had been sent out and posted online. Again, the Dutch government has not been invited to express its side of the story during the briefing.

In my opinion, the one-sidedness with which this case is being handled, goes against the very principles the Helsinki Committee assures the public that they defend. I will advise the Ambassador and the Ministry accordingly.

HP Schreinemachers

Counselor for Justice and Home Affairs

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.....

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From: Hollabaugh, Allison (CSCE) [mailto:AHollabaugh@mail.house.gov]
Sent: vrijdag 28 september 2012 12:42
To: Schreinemachers, H.P.
Subject: Fw: Commission to Hold Briefing on Child Sex Trafficking

Here you are, HP. I will relay your question about adding a witness.

Best wishes,

Allison

From: Han, Shelly
Sent: Friday, September 28, 2012 12:09 PM
To: Han, Shelly
Subject: Commission to Hold Briefing on Child Sex Trafficking



Contact: Shelly Han

Phone: +1 (202) 225-1901

Shelly.Han@mail.house.gov

www.facebook.com/helsinkicommission

U.S. Helsinki Commission to Hold Briefing on Child Sex Trafficking

WASHINGTON—The Commission on Security and Cooperation in Europe (U.S. Helsinki Commission) announced the following briefing:

Listening to Victims of Child Sex Trafficking

Thursday, October 4, 2012

2:00 pm

Room 2255 Rayburn House Office Building

The sex trafficking and abuse of children is a crime that destroys the lives of the victims as well as the social fabric of society. The traffickers and abusers rely on their ability to frighten a child into silence or the reluctance of adults to listen when children speak. It is imperative that the justice system be ready to listen to allegations and to thoroughly investigate them.

The Helsinki Commission, in conjunction with the Victims' Rights Caucus, will hold a briefing on how justice systems can most effectively respond to domestic and international allegations of child trafficking. The briefing will include a current case study in the Netherlands, where a government official has been accused of domestic and international child sex trafficking. Dutch authorities conducted a preliminary investigation, but many have found it grossly unsatisfactory as Dutch authorities interviewed only one of three victims and none of the available witnesses or facilitators of the alleged crime was interviewed. For more on the case study, please view the following video: <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=nmeYiR-yyS4>.

The following panelists are scheduled to participate:

Adèle van der Plas, Attorney for domestic and international child victims of sex trafficking, Bakker Schut & Van der Plas

Klaas Langendoen, Private Investigator, Former Chief of the Criminal Intelligence Service, Netherlands

Bart van Well, Survivor of child trafficking in Amsterdam, Netherlands

**** Panelists may be added****

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The Commission on Security and Cooperation in Europe, also known as the U.S. Helsinki Commission, is an independent agency of the Federal Government charged with monitoring compliance with the Helsinki Accords and advancing comprehensive security through promotion of human rights, democracy, and

economic, environmental and military cooperation in 56 countries. The Commission consists of nine members from the U.S. Senate, nine from the House of Representatives, and one member each from the Departments of State, Defense, and Commerce.

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