



EUROPEAN COMMISSION
DIRECTORATE-GENERAL JUSTICE

Directorate A: Civil justice
Unit A.1 : Civil justice policy

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Ms Azota Popescu
c/o Association Catharsis
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Braşov
Romania

e-mail:

[@](#)

Dear Ms Popescu,

Thank you for your e-mail dating of 27 July 2011 addressed to Ms. Le Bail asking for a copy of the document that confirms or disproves the EU decision regarding the blocking of the international adoptions in Romania. On behalf of Ms. Le Bail, I am sorry to inform you that there is no such document issued by the European Union.

To supplement the information we already provided to you with the letter of 17 January 2011, please find below information concerning latest occasions when this topic had been discussed in the European Union.

A long debate took place during the European Parliament Plenary meeting of 19 January 2011 when the European Commission replied to a parliamentary question on international adoptions. The Commission confirmed that it supports the accession of third countries to the 1993 Hague Convention on Inter-country Adoptions and its correct implementation by participating in the relevant meetings of the contracting parties. The Commission does not consider specific European rules on intra-EU adoptions to be necessary, since all EU Member States are parties to the Hague Convention, but is closely following the issue of international adoption within the European Union, given the link between adoption and children's rights.

You may read further about the discussion and on the Resolution adopted by the European Parliament on the website of the European Parliament:

<http://www.europarl.europa.eu/en/pressroom/content/20110119IPR11957/html/Adoption-in-the-EU-ensuring-children's-right-to-a-family-life>.

The Commission has also replied to parliamentary questions on international adoptions in writing on 20 May and 27 May 2011 as follows: The Commission believes that the

correct implementation of the Hague Convention on Inter-country Adoption provides for a sufficient legal framework to solve problems relating to cross-border adoptions between Member States. Nevertheless, it also points out that ratification of this Convention does not oblige countries to make children available for inter-country adoptions. The Commission stated that "the 1993 Hague Convention aims at implementing Article 21 of the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child, by establishing safeguards to ensure that inter-country adoptions take place in the best interests of the child and with respect for his or her fundamental rights. The Commission believes that it is the sole responsibility of the Romanian authorities to take steps in order to comply with the recommendation of the UN Committee for the Rights of the Child (UNCRC)."

We hope that we have provided you with helpful information on your matter.

Yours sincerely,

Salla SAASTAMOINEN
Head of Unit