



Battle for Missing Babies

Bitka za Nestale Bebe

May 17, 2014

Dear Mr. Davenport,

Head of the EU Delegation
To the Republic of Serbia

[REDACTED]

As you may be aware, rumours and accusations of a lucrative trade in babies has plagued Serbia over the past few decades. Criminals, colluding with doctors and medical staff, offered stolen babies for sale to willing buyers. Evidence from thousands of victims in Serbia has resulted in the matching of over 100 stolen babies with their birth parents so far ~ this was accomplished by individual families without support or acknowledgement from the Serbian government. If this sounds familiar, it is because it is very similar to the highly publicized



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situation in Spain where babies were stolen for profit. Unlike Spain, the government in Serbia has so far done everything possible to suppress these accusations, denigrate and deny the victims and thwart justice and reunification of families. Last year, the European Court of Human Rights ruled against Serbia in the case of Zorica Jovanovic vs Serbia, and ruled that Serbia has 1 year to comply with the ruling to set up an independent body to investigate and provide redress to the thousands of parents who are seeking answers as to what happened to the babies they gave birth to in state run hospitals. The full details of this case can be read here: <http://s.conjur.com.br/dl/decisao-bebes-servia.pdf>



The Ombudsmen Office in Belgrade was the only organization that had been helpful and they have now exhausted all options at their disposal, and are now confronted by the same challenges that I faced and no further action is possible.

One year after the European Court of Human Rights ruling against Serbia, the government is yet to still enact any measures to address the thousands of parents seeking answers as to what happened to their children. To date since this ruling, Serbian authorities have been no more helpful and no more transparent in providing vital information from government bodies that would give proof or dismiss claims of



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baby trafficking. The EU's support for this ruling is immensely important in this battle for justice and human rights. A clear statement regarding the protection of human rights and your interest in my situation sends a simple message to the government of Serbia, that you care about this situation and the crimes of human trafficking. We sincerely hope that the Serbian government eventually listens to the European Human Rights Court and will provide support for the victims of this crime.

My purpose in writing to you today is a follow up with you and request a face to face meeting with you so I can bring you up to date with the status of the missing babies situation in Serbia, and seek your continued support. I will be in Serbia until July 3rd....but travelling to France from May 31-June 9th. I would be most grateful for an opportunity to meet with you at your earliest convenience at your office in Belgrade.

Please accept my thanks and extend my gratitude to your office and to your personnel in Serbia who have been concerned with my case and most helpful in providing what support they were able to offer. You can contact me at the following number, + 381 64 940 8156

Yours truly,

[Redacted signature block]