

Nordic Adoption Council

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European Parliament
Chair of Committee on Civil Liberties, Justice and Home Affairs
Chair of Committee on Women's Right and Gender Equality
EU Commissioner Franco Frattini

Rue Wirtz 60
B-1047 Bruxelles
Belgien

Re: *Towards an EU strategy on the rights of the child.*

Dear Mr. Jean-Marie Cavada, Mrs. Anna Záborská and Mr. Franco Frattini,

Nordic Adoption Council (NAC) is an umbrella organisation for 15 Nordic adoption organisations. The aim of the activity of NAC is primarily to formulate and stick to the ethical basis for our adoption activity, and especially to persist in keeping the best interest of the child in the centre of focus.

We have noted with great interest and satisfaction that the two committees of the EU Parliament has made a report about the rights of the children. Specially, we have noted the paragraphs 111 through 116 touching on very important issues connected with inter-country adoption.

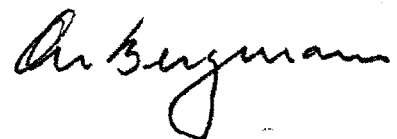
We totally agree that the best interest of the child should be the primary consideration as laid down in the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child and that the framework regulating the practice should be created on the basis of the Hague Convention.

We sincerely hope that an EU Community instrument on adoptions taking all the relevant international standards into consideration will be based on the fundamental right to have family and protection.

The Nordic Adoption Council offers its assistance and advice if needed and wish you all success in the future work.

Best regards

f. Sten Juul Petersen
Chairman of Nordic Adoption Council



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