



Jens-Peter Bonde

Member of the European parliament

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Dear Olli Rehn,

As I already informed you Ulla Sandbæk and myself are writing to you about the case of Grigorian Bivolaru, whom the Romanian authorities wanted extradited from Sweden...

The Swedish Supreme Court (whose ruling I have attached, and which is explaining the whole case) ruled that Grigorian Bivolaru (Grieg) could not be extradited. At the moment Grieg is waiting for the answer to his request of asylum. Meanwhile lots of things have been happening in Romania.

The situation is as follows: Grieg's trial regarding the sexual abuse accusation began yesterday in Sibiu (a city in Romania).

The file about the trafficking is still on the prosecutor desk and they are collecting statements and evidences. Until now 25 people are accused, most of them yoga teachers. There were some more people but 2 of them were taken out from the file because they accepted to give incriminatory statements.

There is another file which regards an accusation of anti-Semitism that includes 4 teachers and Grieg. In this file they are only trying to collect any evidence from the books Grieg and the other persons were writing. Recently, we have been told that the prosecutor is trying to find witnesses of some of the lectures that Grieg was giving and to take some statements about the anti-Semitism content of these lectures. (Needless to say that Grieg is not an anti-Semite, but he has made statements about Jewish free masons and possibly just named them the Jews).

There is also an "Extaz" file which includes 5 persons (including Grieg). This file (which we will not go into at this moment because it would make this letter too long) is still on the prosecutor office but they say that it will soon be sent to the court.

A number of properties stand to be confiscated. For the moment there are 70 properties on the list of confiscation (they will be effectively confiscated and sold in the moment the accusation of trafficking is proven right) among which are private properties and also MISA's yoga halls, the

yoga hotel in Costinesti and many other. There are also 25 cars on the confiscation list, most of these on private names.

This is the situation so far in Romania. The State Authorities are continuously saying that Grieg is lost "for the moment" but they hope that another warrant will be issued on his name soon. These statements were made on the main media channels after the verdict of the Supreme Court.

As you can see the Romanian authorities are trying to destroy the entire yoga movement and everything Grieg built up in Romania. If they cannot put him away for life at least they can destroy his life work but that means destroying a lot of people who face from 5 to 20 years of prison if convicted, their only "crime" being that they are yoga teachers.

Eamon Noonan who is an employee at the Foreign Affairs Committee dealing with human rights has been very helpful in drafting a letter which Elmar Brok - the chairman of the Foreign Affairs Committee - sent to the Romanian Ambassador before the ruling of the Supreme Court. I have sent the decision to Elmar Brok's office and I hope he will make a follow up. Besides, Veronique de Keyser who is a member of the Human Rights Subcommittee has promised that she would try to raise the question there. Please do let us know what you may do.

Yours sincerely,

Ulla Sandbæk and Jens-Peter Bonde