Richard Drax MP

South Dorset



HOUSE OF COMMONS

LONDON SW1A 0AA

Mr Rob McMorran
Extradition Section
Civil Liberties and Public Protection
5th Floor, Fry Building
2 Marsham Street
LONDON SW1P 4DF

24 January 2011

Dear Rob.

Thank you for giving us a point of contact, to enable us to submit our views on the European Arrest Warrant (EAW).

If I gave you my most candid views on the EAW, they would be unprintable. So, I think the best way of contributing to your review is to present a case from my constituency, which reveals in horrific detail the implications of this unjust and ill thought out EU regulation.

I have written to both the Prime Minister and the Home Secretary and enclose a copy of that letter. I hope you will find it is clear and explains Michael Turner's case in very simple terms.

While I quite accept there should be cross border co-operation between EU countries, especially in areas like terrorism, a citizen's rights must be respected. In my constituent's case, they are not.

Add to this the fact that Hungary was until recently a Communist country, with little respect for human rights, and you can see how the EAW can be abused.

I appeal to you and any other members of your panel to review the EAW and to urge our Government to use retrospective legislation to get rid of it.

I should be most grateful if you could inform me of the outcome of your review so that I can brief Mr Turner.

Yours sincerely,

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Micheal Turner and Jason McGoldrick Chronology

2002 M & J incorporate a small marketing company in Hungary. Local commercial lawyers are used in all aspects of the company's activities to ensure compliance with local, laws and regulations.

2005 M & J as Directors decided that the company had to cease trading. The Government had <u>again</u> taken funds from the Co. Bank account against <u>future</u> tax liabilities. Between the Government and local population they realise they have inadequate resources to survive the corrupt markets of post communist Europe.

All tax demands, staff salaries and P.A.Y.E. were paid. THEY RETURN TO THE U.K. WITH NOTHING. Their lawyers who were located in adjacent office were left with full explanations and of course had full contact details.

2008 Despite no contact from Hungarian Authorities or their lawyers. The Hungarian Authorities issue a E.A.W. Declaring they are wanted to stand for trial for fraud, turning an alleged 18K of creditors into victims.

M & J Barrister in London. Hugh O'Donoghue liaises with Dr. Pakay (Lawyer in Budapest) and establishes that this is in fact only an investigation.

2009 Mr O'Donoghue argues in the High Court that extradition cannot be used merely for investigation.

Judge Collins agrees but says, The issue of the warrant is a statement from the requesting authority that the named persons are wanted for trial. He must give his judicial trust to the Hungarians. He declares he is directed from Brussels on the matter.

M & J accept the judges decision and reassurances that their human rights will be respected and go to Budapest.

HERE, THEY ARE TREATED IN THE MOST AWFUL WAY! HEARING THEIR STORIES BRING TEARS TO THE EYES OF DECENT PEOPLE.

2010 After much campaigning they are released from the High Security, former KGB prison in Budapest. Released without charge. After 115 days imprisonment they have only being asked a few irrelevant questions on one day and seen no evidence against them.

Dr. Pakay has now confirmed that after 5 years and interviewing over 500 witnesses the police have no evidence. Should there ever be a trial however, he claims it would take over 1 year of court time!

Instead of saying that's the end of the matter Dr Pakay informs us that the Prosecutor has appointed a new police investigation team and instructed them to start again.

Proportionality & Costs

These young men are still having nightmares and anxieties over what some have called torture at the hands of the Hungarians.

British taxpayers are giving millions of pounds to the Hungarians via E.U. grants. To be spent like this?!

This case has already costs the taxpayers tens of thousands of pounds in London, a tip of the iceberg compared to what will happen if Hungary issues another warrant.

M & J since their release from prison have voluntarily flown back to Budapest at their own expense to answer questions. They have fully co-operated in all aspects of the Hungarian investigation.

Enough is Enough - Our money is running out! What then?

Lawyers, both in London and Budapest are concerned Hungary will want to vindicate its actions by finding them guilty of something.

We need help to give the Hungarians a sense of proportionality, and stop this persecution.

Thank you