

National DNA Database Ethics Group

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Secretary: Dr Joanne Wallace

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Rt. Hon. Theresa May MP
Home Secretary
Home Office
2 Marsham Street
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27 November 2015

Dear Home Secretary,

Re: Recommendation to join Prüm agreement

The National DNA Database Ethics Group (EG) has, over the last year, been closely following the considerations around the implementation of the Prüm agreement. The EG has consistently felt that it is important to emphasise that a murder committed anywhere is of equal moral concern and our ability to help solve serious crimes wherever they occur should not be ignored.

The Prüm pilot carried out earlier this year demonstrated these arrangements are of significant benefit to people in the UK and to the rest of Europe in securing the arrest of perpetrators of crime, bringing justice to their victims, and preventing further serious crime.

We give a wholehearted welcome to the recommendation for the UK to rejoin Prüm, which recognises the major ethical issue underlying this debate whilst providing appropriate safeguards for civil liberties.

Yours sincerely,



Chris Hughes
Chair, NDNADEG

cc NDNAD EG

Robert Butlin, Safeguarding and Public Protection Unit