



EUROPEAN COMMISSION
DIRECTORATE-GENERAL JUSTICE

Directorate A: Civil justice
The Director

Brussels, 15/04/2014
DG JUST/Ares(2014)

Subject: Awareness raising campaign on international family separation

The growing mobility of citizens within the European Union has resulted in an increasing number of families with an international dimension. Everybody understands that family separation is always a difficult and painful affair, but when it takes place across borders, difficulties and stress are frequently compounded.

The European Union has acted to simplify the legal situation by putting in place rules to improve cross-border judicial cooperation. However, awareness of these EU instruments and the practical help available should be enhanced.

Vice-President Viviane Reding, Commissioner for Justice, Fundamental Rights and Citizenship has therefore today launched with the support of the European Parliament Mediator for Cross-border Parental Child Abduction, Roberta Angelilli, an awareness raising campaign on the issues relating to child custody, visiting rights and parental child abduction (see press release http://europa.eu/rapid/press-release_IP-14-451_en.htm). This campaign informs international couples of the EU rules and promotes agreements in the child's best interests.

For each of the above mentioned topics, the European Commission has produced a leaflet and a short video available in all EU languages. The leaflets are available in print and electronic format. In order to make as many international couples as possible better aware of the existing rules, the Commission would ask for your help in disseminating these materials to your main stakeholders. We count and rely on your help in making this campaign a success.

You will find in the annex all practical information and contacts, which will allow you to actively participate in the awareness-raising campaign.

Thank you very much in advance for your collaboration.

Yours sincerely,

Paraskevi Michou

ANNEX

Where you can find the communication tools.

Hard copy versions of the leaflets

Copies of the leaflets can be ordered free of charge in all EU languages (except Irish) on a site set up by Ecorys UK: <http://uk.ecorys.com/family>

Electronic versions of the leaflets

The electronic versions can be found in the EU Bookshop:

- leaflet on child custody:
<http://bookshop.europa.eu/uri?target=EUB:NOTICE:DS0114161:EN:HTML>
- leaflet on parental child abduction:
<http://bookshop.europa.eu/uri?target=EUB:NOTICE:DS0114162:EN:HTML>

Videos

Videos can be viewed and shared on the European Commission's DG Justice YouTube channel.

- video on child custody:
https://e-justice.europa.eu/content_child_custody_and_visiting_rights-310-en.do
- video on parental child abduction:
https://e-justice.europa.eu/content_parental_child_abduction-309-en.do

If you have any queries you can contact Ecorys UK in English, French or German by emailing: family@uk.ecorys.com