

Vienna, 10 November 2009
FRA 7979 -2009

Mr. Jerzy Buzek
President of the European Parliament
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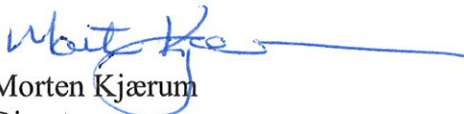
Dear President,

By letter of 30 September 2009 the Deputy Director General of the European Parliament forwarded on your behalf the resolution of the European Parliament “on the Lithuanian Law on the Protection of Minors against the Detrimental Effects of Public Information” to the EU Agency for Fundamental Rights. In operative paragraph 1 of this resolution, the European Parliament asks the European Union Agency for Fundamental Rights to give an opinion on the law and the amendments in the light of the EU Treaties and EU law.

While the request of the Parliament, in the way it is formulated, does not fall within the remit of the mandate of the Agency, I am in this context very pleased to inform you that in 2010 the Agency will update the legal part of its report on “Homophobia and Discrimination on Grounds of Sexual Orientation and Gender Identity in the EU Member States” published in 2008. The update, which will compare the situation in all 27 EU Member States, will contain most recent country specific information and data on legislation and legal practice addressing homophobia and discrimination on grounds of sexual orientation, including laws on the handling of information with possible detrimental effects on minors.

Let me finally assure you that the issue of homophobia and discrimination on grounds of sexual orientation will remain high on the agenda of the Fundamental Rights Agency in the coming years.

Yours sincerely,



Morten Kjærum
Director

Cc: Mr. Juan Fernando López Aguilar, Chairman LIBE Committee
Mr. David Harley, Deputy Secretary General of the European Parliament
Mr. Emilio De Capitani, Head of Unit, LIBE - Committee

European Union Agency for
Fundamental Rights

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