

# ***Raoul Wallenberg Honorary Citizen Committee***

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**H.E. Carl Bildt - Minister for Foreign Affairs**

H.E. Fredrik Reinfeldt  
Prime Minister of Sweden

H.E. Per Westerberg  
Speaker of the Riksdag



18 May 2007

Your Excellencies,

On July 2007, 60 years will have passed since the alleged death of Raoul Wallenberg in Soviet captivity.

I am writing to ask your assistance in requesting your country's government to actively pursue the search for Raoul Wallenberg by:

- a. forming a ministerial committee in order to implement a governmental policy with the goal of immediately clarifying the fate of Raoul Wallenberg
- b. requesting access to all relevant files from President Putin
- c. forming a Parliamentary inquiry to establish that all avenues have indeed been explored since the 2003 publication of the report "Kommissionen om den svenska utrikesledningens agerande i fallet Raoul Wallenberg" and the report "Raoul Wallenberg: Report of the Swedish-Russian working group, Stockholm, 2000"
- d. urging you to intercede personally with the appropriate Swedish government officials and intelligence agencies and international intelligence agencies as well as Interpol to request the immediate release of all available information
- e. circulating the Missing in Action Appeal

It is extremely shameful that Raoul Wallenberg, who saved so many lives and who could still be alive today, is now being abandoned by the world's powers. We are therefore appealing to you, Your Excellencies, on humanitarian grounds

to please actively support this initiative of trying to find information on the whereabouts of Raoul Wallenberg.

In the past we have had contact with your country's Prime Minister, Ministers of Foreign Affairs, and Speaker of the Parliament, as well as some other Swedish Parliamentarians.

Minister of Foreign Affairs Laila Freivalds responded on 27 January 2006 as follows:

Answer to question 2005/06:821 on the follow-up of the Raoul Wallenberg report:

1) "So the Raoul Wallenberg case is thus still on the bilateral Swedish-Russian agenda. It has been raised on a number of occasions both political and official Swedish contacts with Russia. The case has also been raised in talks with representatives of other countries."

2) "The Swedish Government naturally intends to continue raising with the Russians the question of what further measures can be taken to move forward in investigations regarding the fate of Raoul Wallenberg."

In reference to Sweden's position (point 1), I would like to inform you that since February 2003 the Russian Government has maintained an opposite position, namely in a letter from Mr. Victor Smirnov, Minister Counsellor of the Embassy of the Russian Federation in Tel Aviv.

On 6 February 2003 Mr. Smirnov wrote:

"At this stage the issue of clarifying the fate of Raoul Wallenberg has been moved from the agenda of the Russian-Swedish relations. Work on this issue has been completed at the official level and has become a matter of historical research.

The Russian side continues to assist Sweden in replying to specific requests for additional information about the fate of Raul Wallenberg proceeding from the fact that further work on this issue is to be conducted by historians."

Therefore, it is my belief that the Minister of Foreign Affairs' commendable initiative in point 2, of raising the issue of Raoul Wallenberg's case, will only be productive in the long term, as Sweden would first need to have a commitment

that the Russian government will move the fate of Raoul Wallenberg back on to the agenda of Russian–Swedish bilateral relations.

Your Excellencies, I would like to make you aware that, as the Prime Minister, Foreign Minister, and Speaker of the Parliament, were you to ask your government and parliament to continue its investigation to determine the truth about Raoul Wallenberg's fate, and were you to ask your government and parliament to make all relevant files relating to the case available, there is a great likelihood that the case may be solved.

As part of this policy, may I further please ask you to specifically encourage your country's government and parliament to request from President Putin, as the Head of the Russian government, full access to all files in Russian archive collections that are known to your government and parliament and to Wallenberg researchers, and to conduct a search for witnesses in the Russian Federation and other countries where Russian emigrants moved to. Both actions are crucial to a positive resolution of the case.

May I respectfully draw your attention to the fact that Germany is chairing the Presidency of the European Union as of January 2007. For your information, the European Parliament passed a resolution on 17 May 1990 that concludes by stating:

1. Calls on the Soviet authorities to reopen the case of Mr. Raoul Wallenberg and his...;
2. Calls on the Soviet authorities to allow an international commission of historians and experts to examine all relevant archive material;
3. Calls on the Soviet authorities to use the press, radio and television and all other legal avenues to launch a search throughout the territory of the Soviet Union;

For your information, the German President, Chancellor, and members of the German parliament have been asked to use their influence and implement further this European Parliament resolution.

What is of immediate importance is the fact that somewhere around the globe there may still be individuals (witnesses) with factual information on the whereabouts of Raoul. The urgency of this request cannot be overstated, since the witnesses we are attempting to find are most likely in their 80s or 90s and their life expectancies are obviously limited. The Swedish Ministry of Foreign Affairs previously approved the text of the attached "Missing in Action" Appeal, and it was sent to some Swedish embassies around the world. I would like to please further request that your government send out the "Missing in Action" appeal through its network of embassies, with a request that each Ambassador

hold a briefing with representatives of the local media, human rights groups, Holocaust groups and governments to stress the importance of the fact that Raoul Wallenberg's fate is still unknown and that perhaps through the help of these individuals (witnesses) the case may be resolved.

Please find below a quote from Ambassador Hagard that supports our request to you:

9 January 1998

“Any new piece of information; any appeal to people in power and/or people with information is welcome because it is needed.”

In addition, may I respectfully ask if Your Excellencies would consider receiving members of Raoul Wallenberg’s immediate family and all Wallenberg experts, in order to allow the family members to personally convey their plea to you?

Just recently, with the release of 2 Swedes imprisoned for spying in Iran, Foreign Minister Carl Bildt said in a statement that the release was gratifying: "Joined efforts, together with Urban Ahlin, have been successful. The Foreign Ministry has worked intensively with the case;" the world witnessed firsthand the positive outcome that can be achieved when such matters are dealt with directly at high levels. Therefore, I would like to respectfully ask Your Excellencies to please review your position on the Wallenberg case on humanitarian grounds, and to use all available means to establish the truth as to the whereabouts of this greatest humanitarian hero, Raoul Wallenberg. After all, it is Minister Bildt who said “As long as the contrary has not been proved, we must assume that he may be alive”

Respectfully submitted,

Max Grunberg

2002 Recipient, Swedish Royal Order of the Polar Star

cc: Prof. Guy von Dardel (brother of Raoul Wallenberg, Switzerland)  
Mrs. Nina Lagergren (sister of Raoul Wallenberg, Sweden)  
Ms. Louise von Dardel (niece of Raoul Wallenberg, France)  
Mrs. Marie Dupuy (niece of Raoul Wallenberg, France)

Mrs. Nane Annan (niece of Raoul Wallenberg, United Nations)

Mrs. Susanne Berger, Wallenberg expert and Former Independent Consultant to  
the Swedish-Russian working group, USA

Mr. David Matas, Wallenberg expert and Barrister and Solicitor, Canada

Mr. Baruch Tenenbaum, Founder International Raoul Wallenberg Foundation, USA

Prof. Frank Vajda, Wallenberg expert, Raoul Wallenberg Committee, Australia

H.E. John HM Hagard, Swedish Ambassador

H.E. Robert Rydberg, Swedish Ambassador

all Ministers of the Government of Sweden

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