

**To:**

Consejería de Bienestar Social, Juventud y  
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**STICHTING  
NEDERLAND  
ERS BUITEN  
NEDERLAND**

**From:**

Foundation for the Dutch outside of the Netherlands (interest organization for the Dutch living abroad)  
www.snb.nl  
info@snbn.nl  
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**About:**

**Duncan Verweel, case DCR 2019 6200604**

New York, July 2nd, 2019

Dear sir/madam,

This last weekend, the interest organization *Foundation for the Dutch outside of the Netherlands* (Stichting Nederlanders Buiten Nederland, www.snb.nl) has been informed about the unfortunate case of the young Duncan Verweel, being currently in your custody.

It is our understanding that Duncan Verweel is a Dutch citizen / child of 8 years old, without having any other nationalities, and that his Dutch mother (Bianca Hulzebosch), currently present at Gran Canaria, has requested to you her son Duncan to be reunited with her as soon as possible.

We also understand that Duncan Verweel has Down syndrome, which has been the sole reason for his parents to have him reside in Spain continuously after their divorce, as they feared that an abrupt change of location and environment would be too upsetting for Duncan. After the latest events with Duncan's father being arrested, and his mother having the full right to guard their son, we understand and sympathize with the mother's request for immediate release.

First we want to express our gratitude that you have taken care of Duncan. However it is our understanding that Duncan could not be released and reunited with his mother "earlier than 45 days" and that no further clarification or indicated legal grounds have been given.

As interest organization for the Dutch living abroad, we kindly but urgently request that Duncan be reunited with his mother at the earliest convenience, meaning today or tomorrow. There seem to be no legal or moral grounds to keep Duncan - without the Spanish nationality, with Down syndrome - in your custody. In case we are missing vital information we are kindly asking you to share this with us, as with the current facts we have no other choice than to ask for the immediate reunification of mother and child.

During the weekend, we have informed both the Dutch embassy in Spain and the *Telegraaf*, the largest newspaper in the Netherlands. They will also receive a copy of this letter. Today we will start informing members of the Dutch parliament about this highly unfortunate case as well.

We are convinced that the interest of Duncan should take priority over all other interests, which leads us to conclude he should to be reunited with his mother immediately.

We rest assured that both you and us want the best for the child and we thank you in advance for your swift cooperation in this matter,

If there is any further information regarding this case you feel we should know, we will appreciate if you can supply it to us.

With kind regards,

On behalf of the board of the Stichting Nederlanders Buiten Nederland (SNBN),



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