

**'J'accuse'** (19 January 2010, at the EU Parliament)

by **UKIP Lord William Dartmouth MEP** who names and shames the political suspects reponsible for the unfair, **undemocratic EU 2002 legislation on the European Arrest Warrant (EAW)** whose "Godfather" is Mr Graham Watson MEP, republican from the Liberal Democrats Party.

Watch the EU video document at <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=3fLFtgXFiNc&feature=related>

### **TRANSCRIPTION OF EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT VIDEO DOCUMENT**

#### **Mr Graham Watson MEP (Lib Dem) "Godfather of the EAW":**

President, **this house proposed the creation of the European Arrest Warrant on 6 September 2001 and our proposal would still be on a shelf gathering dust if it hadn't been for the events in New York five days later. Mr Bin Laden helped make it a reality and it was to me that fell the honour to pilot the measure through the House.** The European Arrest Warrant has replaced extradition. It's substantially cut the time needed for surrender. It's encouraged direct contact between Member States judicial authorities. It's ruled out decisions based on political expediency to the extent that Member States surrender their own nationals. It has vastly enhanced the rule of law on our continent.

#### **EU Parliament Chair:**

(ironically) Thank you. I was going to call you as the *Godfather of the European Arrest Warrant* but I thought it would be misunderstood.

- (addressing to another MEP) Yes, he was waving it.

- Do you accept it? Yes you do **Lord Dartmouth**. Thirty seconds.

**Lord Dartmouth MEP (UKIP):**

**You mention Bin Laden and 9/11 as being the justification for the European Arrest— as paving the way for the adoption of the European Arrest Warrant. Is it your contention therefore that the European Arrest Warrant should be used only against terrorists and murderers and in case of serious violent crimes?**

**Mr Graham Watson MEP (Lib Dem):**

President, with permission, I did not give Mr Bin Laden as the justification. I said he helped us to speed it up. It was never intended solely to cover terrorist crimes, it was intended to cover all serious crimes, and those who oppose its use are those who effectively oppose the rule of law on our continent and the protection that the European Arrest Warrant gives to our citizens.

**Lord Dartmouth MEP (UKIP):**

I speak tonight because, as has been mentioned, two constituents – Michael Turner and Jason McGoldrick – are imprisoned in Unit 2 of the Central Budapest Jail in Hungary. They've been imprisoned since November 3<sup>rd</sup>, they are yet to be tried, there is in fact no trial date, the terms of imprisonment are burdensome, they are separated and have no contact with each other, they share a small cell with three other prisoners, they are confined to their cells 23 hours a day, they are permitted three telephone calls and one shower a week, they are allowed one family visit per month. In short they are isolated. The language barrier makes the isolation worst. They are accused of a white collar crime, they are not murderers or terrorists, and they are imprisoned only because of the European Arrest Warrant. **The**

**European Arrest Warrant swept away at a stroke the safeguards against arrest established in Britain over a thousand years.** Well may you shake your head Mr Watson, it would be better if you apologised. **Mistaken identity and identity theft mean that what has happened to Jason and Michael can now also happen to any British citizen at any time.** The Labour Party, Liberal Democrats and the Conservative Party – all these parties – voted in favour of a European Arrest Warrant. **To re-state Zola, j'accuse, I accuse the parties of the British political establishment. Their support for the European Arrest Warrant has put everyone in Britain at risk of random arrest.** Thank you.

**Mr. Gerard Batten MEP (UKIP):**

Mr President, the committee calls for the Council to continue work in introducing common European procedural rights in criminal matters. An existing common procedure in the form of **the European Arrest Warrant has removed the centuries old safeguards against unjust arrest and imprisonment that the English used to enjoy.** This isn't an academic argument. The EAW is destroying innocent people's lives. **My constituent, Andrew Symeou, is just one of a growing number of people extradited without an English Court having the power to consider the prima facie evidence against them and to prevent unjust extradition. Extradition has now been reduced to a mere bureaucratic formality.** Mr Symeou has been held for six months in the notorious Korydallos Prison without bail or prospect of trial. The political cynicism of the British Liberal Democrats is truly breathtaking. They now cry crocodile tears in London over Mr Symeou's fate despite having been materially responsible for the common procedures that caused it, and while here they work for more of the same legislation. **The common procedures are about lowering European legal standards and not raising them. Let me make a suggestion— if you want higher standards**

**in European criminal proceedings, then adopt Habeas Corpus, trial by jury, and the main provisions of Magna Carta and the Bill of Rights 1689 as the common European standards.**

- End -

**More information on the unfair EAW and the ever growing undemocratic drive of the European Union** in the website of the **UKIP (UK Independence Party)** <http://www.ukip.org/>

and the **UKIP website of MEPs** <http://www.ukipmeps.org/>