



**Missing
Children
Europe**

Brussels, 19th January 2018

To whom it may concern

Missing Children Europe is a network of member organisations that brings together 30 organisations who work on the issue of missing children from and across 26 European countries.

Missing Children Switzerland is a key member of our family and plays a valuable role in our European and international level initiatives to support and protect children from going missing.

An important part of the work of Missing children Europe is to co-ordinate a network of hotlines for missing children, operated across Europe through the same telephone number 116 000, established by the European Commission who recognised the need for co-ordination on the disappearances of children.

When a child or a family member calls that number they are connected immediately to the relevant organisation in their country who are best placed to give free legal, psychological, and administrative support.

In Switzerland, that mandate has been awarded to Missing Children Switzerland and they are the only organisation that runs this hotline for disappearances in Switzerland.

Over the past 6 years, the network of hotlines for missing children responded to over 1 million calls.

Hotlines for missing children work in close cooperation with law enforcement in charge of the investigation of missing children cases.

Procedures developed among the hotlines allows for swift cooperation across national borders, for the cross-border cases which represent approximately 20% of the caseload of these hotlines.

Coordination and alignment between national procedures are in this respect crucial and Missing Children Switzerland is a key member of this network.

We hope the enclosed reports will provide you with a clear overview of the European efforts, through the support provided by Missing Children Switzerland.





Maud de Boer-Buquicchio

President of Missing Children Europe

UN Special Rapporteur on the Sale of Children, Child Prostitution and Child Pornography



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