



Mette Frederiksen,  
Prime Minister of Denmark

Brussels, 15 October 2024

Dear Prime Minister,

In an era marked by escalating environmental challenges, the role of activists like Paul Watson is more crucial than ever. His work has brought global attention to critical issues such as illegal fishing, marine habitat destruction, the preservation of endangered species or the violation of international law such as the one committed by Japan who was convicted by the International Court of Justice for its violation of whale protection laws.

The arrest of Paul Watson is due to an abusive use of the red note of Interpol, used by Japan as a political tool against his activism. We would like to recall that he was arrested because another man climbed on a boat in order to present a bill (videos of the event are available). Under no circumstance can International police and justice be used for Strategic Lawsuits against Public Participation (SLAPPs).

As Members of the European Parliament, we want to recall that the European Union has long stood for environmental defenders through different political programs, including funding their protection, raising the stakes against environmental crimes, protecting whistle-blowers or being part of the Aarhus Convention.

We are also committed to the respect of international law, and the respect of international justice. We deeply regret that the arrest of Paul Watson follows an abusive use of the Interpol red notes that EU member states should resist.

For all of the above reason, we, Members of the European Parliament, ask you not to proceed with the extradition of Paul Watson and to release him immediately from any charge.

Yours sincerely,

**MEP Marie Toussaint**, Greens/EFA  
**MEP Virginijus Sinkevicius**, Greens/EFA  
**MEP Rasmus Nordqvist**, Greens/EFA  
**MEP Lena Schilling**, Greens/EFA  
**MEP Grégory Allione**, Renew Europe  
**MEP Rasmus Andresen**, Greens/EFA  
**MEP Jaume Asens**, Greens/EFA  
**MEP Lynn Boylan**, The Left  
**MEP Saskia Bricmont**, Greens/EFA  
**MEP Mélissa Camara**, Greens/EFA  
**MEP Pascal Canfin**, Renew Europe  
**MEP Estelle Ceulemans**, Socialists and Democrats  
**MEP Per Clausen**, The Left

**MEP David Cormand**, Greens/EFA  
**MEP Annalisa Corrado**, Socialists and Democrats  
**MEP Sebastian Everding**, The Left  
**MEP Emma Fourreau**, The Left  
**MEP André Franqueira Rodrigues**, Socialists and Democrats  
**MEP Jean-Marc Germain**, Socialists and Democrats  
**MEP Cristina Guarda**, Greens/EFA  
**MEP Rima Hassan**, The Left  
**MEP Anja Hazekamp**, The Left  
**MEP Vicent Marza Ibanez**, Greens/EFA  
**MEP Sergey Lagodinsky**, Greens/EFA  
**MEP Sara Matthieu**, Greens/EFA  
**MEP Tilly Metz**, Greens/EFA  
**MEP Ana Miranda**, Greens/EFA-  
**MEP Jutta Paulus**, Greens/EFA  
**MEP Nuno Pedrosa**, The Left  
**MEP Kira Marie Peter-Hansen**, Greens/EFA  
**MEP Carola Rackete**, The Left  
**MEP Diana Riba i Giner**, Greens/EFA  
**MEP Chloé Ridel**, Socialists and Democrats  
**MEP Mounir Satouri**, Greens/EFA  
**MEP Majdouline Sbai**, Greens/EFA  
**MEP Benedetta Scuderi**, Greens/EFA  
**MEP Anthony Smith**, The Left  
**MEP Yvan Verougstraete**, Renew Europe  
**MEP Catarina Vieira**, Greens/EFA  
**MEP Thomas Waitz**, Greens/EFA