

Reykjavík, January 19, 2010

Mr. Stephanus Abraham Blok  
Chairman of the Finance Committee  
The House of Representatives  
2500 EA The Hague  
The Netherlands

**Request for a meeting with the Finance Committee to discuss the Icesave issue**

Dear Mr. Blok,

The InDefence group of Iceland would like to kindly request a meeting with members of the Finance Committee of Tweede Kamer der Staten-Generaal to discuss the Icesave issue.

The InDefence group organized a petition in Iceland asking the president of Iceland not to sign the Icesave laws. The petition was signed by close to 25% of voters in Iceland and was the foundation for the president's refusal to sign the laws. The enormous number of voters signing the petition shows that there is great resentment toward the Icesave agreements in Iceland.

The group would like to explain the problems with the current Icesave agreement and Iceland's view of the Icesave dispute. We would also like to learn first hand how the case presents itself to Dutch parliamentarians.

We believe it is important at this stage to form a broader base for a mutual understanding between our nations.

Yours respectfully,

Agnar Helgason (D.Phil)  
Davíð Blöndal (B.S.)  
Eiríkur Svavarsson, Attorney at law (LLM)  
Jóhannes Þ. Skúlason (B.A.)  
Magnús Árni Skúlason (MBA, M.Sc.)  
Ólafur Elíasson, Pianist (M.Perf. Royal Academy of Music, MBA)  
Ragnar Ólafsson (M.Sc)  
Sigurður Hannesson (D.Phil)



**On InDefence:**

In Defence of Iceland (InDefence) is a roughly one year old grass-roots organisation that was founded in October to protest against the use of the Anti-Terrorism Act by the British Government against Iceland, a struggling ally which was placed on a list of “regimes subject to financial sanctions” with Al-Queda, North-Korea, Sudan, the Taliban and other notorious organisations. This unbelievable action resulted in the devaluation of all Icelandic assets around the world and made Iceland already severe crisis even worse.

InDefence organised the largest web-based petition ever undertaken in Iceland - the “Icelanders are NOT Terrorists” campaign. On March 17<sup>th</sup> 2009, the InDefence group handed in 83,300 signatures from the petition to the British-Icelandic All-Party Parliamentary Group at the Houses of Parliament in London, protesting that Iceland’s citizens being labelled “terrorists” by the British government.

On June 5, 2009, InDefence launched another campaign against the so-called Icesave trilateral Agreement between Iceland, the Netherlands and the United Kingdom. According to this Agreement, the Icelandic government agreed to compensate the Dutch and British governments for the Icesave accounts of the private bank Landsbanki for an amount that is nearly half of Iceland's GDP with a staggering 5,55% interest rates. This is size of guarantee is simply too much risk for Iceland. It has to be remembered that Icesave is based on vague legal foundations and is thus an obligation Iceland decided to take on, rather than a debt Iceland has to pay.

The InDefence group again organized a petition in Iceland, now asking the president of Iceland not to sign the Icesave laws. The petition was signed by 60.000 or close to 25% of voters in Iceland and was the foundation for the president’s refusal to sign the laws.

**Contact information:**

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