



PRESS RELEASE

Free a Girl warns Mexican authorities about fleeing Dutch paedo activist Nelson Maatman

Free a Girl has launched a petition to prevent paedo activist Nelson Maatman from being granted political asylum in Mexico. To achieve this, Free a Girl is calling for signatures to its letter to the Mexican authorities, which can be found at the Free a Girl website. Nelson Maatman recently fled the Netherlands to avoid facing criminal charges there.

Free a Girl has information in which Nelson Maatman claims that having sex with children aged 12 and over is allowed in Mexico. '*One a day for gratification*', he says. According to Free a Girl, 'This means that Maatman poses a serious danger to children.'

The Public Prosecutor in the Netherlands has charged Maatman and his colleagues, Marthijn Uittenbogaard and Norbert de Jonge, with continuing Vereniging Martijn online. This association was banned by the Supreme Court in 2014, because it downplays the dangers of sexual contact between adults and young children, and even glorifies and promotes such contact. The Public Prosecutor demanded a one-year prison sentence, and the court is due to make its ruling on 8 March.

In addition, on 22 May a criminal case will begin against him for the possession of child pornography (explicit sexual images of children). It was previously ruled that he could await his trial in freedom, but under strict conditions, including avoiding contact with children. Now that Maatman is in Mexico, there is no supervision of whether he complies with these conditions.

Nelson Maatman is the founder and chair of the Party for Charity, Freedom and Diversity (Partij voor Naastenliefde, Vrijheid en Diversiteit, PNVD), which aims to promote and legalise private ownership of all forms of pornography, including child pornography. The party also wants to legalise and allow sex between adults and children from 12 years of age.

About Free a Girl

Free a Girl strives for a world free of the sexual exploitation of children. We rescue imprisoned girls and give them back their freedom, and provide acute medical care and psychological assistance so that they can process their traumas and avoid falling victim again. We work hard to rescue these children, and do all in our power to ensure that their exploiters are actually brought to justice. That is why we are also fighting for due process for victims of sexual exploitation, so that we can fight for justice together. We work in Bangladesh, Brazil, China, India, Iraq, Laos, the Netherlands, Nepal and Thailand. Free a Girl has helped to rescue almost 6,000 girls to date, and we will continue for as long as it is necessary.