

To: MdEP Prof. Dr. Klaus Buchner (ÖDP)
From: Prof. Dr. Salvatore Pitruzzello (Ph.D. Columbia University)
Re: Parental Alienation Conference, 6th February 2020

Prof. Buchner:

I have been informed that you have organized a '*Parental Alienation Conference*' at the European Parliament on February 6, 2020.

I have also been informed that you have co-organized your '*Parental Alienation Conference*' with Gerd Riedmeier, Chairman of FSI and a Member of William Bernet's PASG Lobby. (www.pasg.info).

Moreover, I have learned that several participants in your '*Parental Alienation Conference*' are also members of William Bernet's PASG Lobby. Indeed, if I may ask, which of the participants IS NOT a member of William Bernet's PASG Lobby?

I formally ask that you cancel your '*Parental Alienation Conference*' at the European Parliament.

I have reasons to use 'formally'. I am writing a book—political sociology/sociology of knowledge—about the temporal evolution and the spatial, geographical, diffusion of William Bernet's *PASG Global (USA-International) Lobby* from 1985 to 2020.

Prof. Buchner, the '*Parental Alienation Conference*' you have co-organized with Gerd Riedmeier—and all other members of Bernet's PASG Lobby participating in the Conference—is regrettable.

Let me be forthright. You are an esteemed Member of the European Parliament. By contrast, William Bernet is a retired professor of psychiatry from Vanderbilt University who inherited Richard Gardner's PAS after his death in 2003. Bernet is well known for deploying from 2005 to 2019 his *Global PASG Lobby* to pressure international scientific organizations such as DSM-5 and WHO/ICD-11 into including one of his myriads 'junk-science' '*Doctrines of Parental Alienation*'.

Such pressures have been defined as 'unprecedented' in the history of the DSM-5 and WHO/ICD-11.

You ought to know that, notwithstanding the pressures from Bernet's PASG Lobby, the international scientific community has rejected all Bernet's proposals of '*Bernetian Parental Alienation*'. The reasons? They lack scientific foundations in the disciplines of psychiatry and psychology; and they offer no empirical – medical and clinical – evidence. The DSM-5 has done so in 2010 and 2013; the ICD-11 in 2016, 2018, and 2019.

William Bernet's reaction—and the reaction of his PASG Lobby? First deny that the international scientific community has rejected Bernet's '*Bernetian Parental Alienation*'; claim, rather, that Bernet's '*Bernetian Parental Alienation*' exists in the DSM-5 and ICD-11 '*IN SPIRIT*'. Second, shift strategy: from seeking '*scientific legitimation*' of Bernet's '*Bernetian Parental Alienation*', which surely exists in the DSM-5 and ICD-11 '*IN SPIRIT*'; to seeking its '*political legitimation*'. Third, use the '*political legitimacy*' to establish new *Family Laws* rooted in the *scientifically discredited* '*Bernetian Parental Alienation*'.

This—manipulation of social policy by rooting Family Law in '*Bernetian Parental Alienation*'—is precisely what Bernet and his PASG Lobby are pursuing in State Legislatures of the United States. (Family Law in the US is the prerogative of States, not of the Federal Government.) Bernet has employed this strategy in the US since 2014 and in several European States since 2017.

Prof. Buchner, your *'Parental Alienation Conference'* has enabled William Bernet to enter the revered European Parliament and to deploy there his *European PASG Lobby*—thus granting *'political legitimacy'* to Bernet's *scientifically discredited 'Bernetian Parental Alienation'*.

My research establishes four 'facts' that you should consider before granting *'political legitimacy'* to Bernet's *scientifically discredited 'Bernetian Parental Alienation'*.

Your *'Parental Alienation Conference'*:

- i. Is a pseudo-scientific, junk-science, *'Bernetian Parental Alienation Conference'*;
- ii. Is part of Bernet's *'Bernetian Global Parental Alienation Political Project'*;
- iii. Is part of Bernet's *'Bernetian Europe-wide Parental Alienation Political Project'*;
- iv. Is part of Bernet's more specific *'Bernetian European Union Parental Alienation Political Project'*.

These four well-documented 'facts' are distinct chapters in my book. I can elaborate for you more fully.

My research also suggests three—preliminary—recommendations that could help offset this shameful granting of *'political legitimacy'* to Bernet's *scientifically discredited 'Bernetian Parental Alienation'*.

First, 'bring in' the European Parliament the true —reputable and internationally recognized—experts from the scientific disciplines of Psychiatry and Psychology: 'bring in' especially those experts who have had to deal with the manipulations by William Bernet and his PASG Lobby from 2005 to 2019.

Second, 'protect' the Institutions of the European Union—here the European Parliament—from the strategies by William Bernet and his European PASG Lobby to manipulate European Social Policy by rooting *'European Family Law'* in the *scientifically discredited 'Bernetian Parental Alienation'*.

Third, protect vulnerable European Families from *scientifically discredited 'Bernetian Parental Alienation'*. Vulnerable families—especially mothers and children who overwhelmingly are accused of *'Bernetian Parental Alienation'* by Bernetian PASG experts—deserve your help and protection.

Prof. Buchner, I hope you will reconsider your decision and cancel this truly shameful granting of *'political legitimacy'* to Bernet's *scientifically discredited 'Bernetian Parental Alienation'*.

I am sharing this letter / document with the Directors of Academic Institutions and Scientific Organizations that in the last 15 years (2005-2020) have had the misfortune to deal with the incessant, and ever more grandiose and delusional, manipulations by William Bernet and his PASG Lobby in their strive to obtain some kind—any kind—of *'scientific recognition'* of a *'Bernetian Parental Alienation'*.

Sincerely,

Dr. Salvatore Pitruzzello

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cc: Prof. Jeffrey Lieberman, Chair, Psychiatry Department, Columbia University
Dr. Michael First, Director of DSM-5, Columbia University
Dr. Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus, WHO/ICD-11 Director-General
Prof. Stephan Heckers, Chair, Psychiatry Department, Vanderbilt University
Prof. Jeffrey Neul, Director, Kennedy Center, Vanderbilt University.