

Statement made on behalf of the Claimant
Witness: Bogdan Stefan Maris (Second)
Date of Statement: 23 September 2005

Court of Appeal Reference: A2/2005/1093

IN THE COURT OF APPEAL (CIVIL DIVISION)
ON APPEAL FROM THE HIGH COURT OF JUSTICE
QUEEN'S BENCH DIVISION

Lower Court Reference:
Claim No. HQ03X03360

ALIN TURCU

Claimant/ Appellant

- and -

NEWS GROUP NEWSPAPERS LIMITED

Defendant/ Respondent

STATEMENT OF BOGDAN STEFAN MARIS

I, BOGDAN STEFAN MARIS, of Bloc 14/4, Roman Musat, Roman, Judetul Piatra Neamt, Romania will say as follows:

1. This is the second statement that I make in support of my application for permission to appeal the judgment of Eady J dated 4 May 2005. I make this statement as a result of the statement of Florim Gashi dated 21 September 2005. I believe the facts stated in this witness statement are true.
2. In Mr Gashi's statement he refers to the fact that I only met him a couple of weeks before the article. This is true and I did not know him well. As far as I am aware, Mr Gashi is Kosovan. I am Romanian. I was arrested the night before the article was published and was in prison for around 8 months. When I was released I instructed lawyers and left it to them to conduct the case. I had no way of finding out where Mr Gashi was living, even if I had wanted to (which I did not). I knew that if Mr Gashi told the truth it would support my case, but I had no reason to believe that he would be willing to give evidence for me. He was the prosecution's main witness.
3. I am happy that he has finally decided to tell the truth, but it makes me feel even worse that the judgment stands and people still think of me as a kidnapper of a woman and her babies. I respectfully ask the court to reverse the judgment or at least order a new trial. I have reached an agreement with Romanian authorities over the fines that I referred to in my earlier statement. I will be able to attend a re-trial if I can obtain a

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visa from the United Kingdom authorities or the trial takes place after Romania enters
the European Union.

Marla

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Bogdan Stefan Marla

23-09-2005

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Date