

M. Jacques Toubon Défenseur des droits 7, rue Saint-Florentin 75008 Paris France

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Dear colleague,

We have been deeply shocked and filled with profound sadness when we learned about the terrorist attacks which hit the city of Nice last week and took the lives of so many innocent citizens.

On behalf of the International Ombudsman Institute (IOI) we would like to extend our sincere condolences to those affected by this catastrophe and once more our deep sympathy goes out to those who have lost loved ones during this horrible attack.

The images of the Paris attacks are still very vivid in our minds, which is why it is all the more unsettling to see that the fear of new attacks, that haunted us after Pairs, has become the sad reality for the citizens of Nice.

It is however once again impressive to see that the French people stand their grounds united and show their strength despite these horrible occurrences. It is difficult times like these that remind us of the importance of democracy, tolerance and international solidarity.

On behalf of the international Ombudsman community, we would like to express our solidarity with the French people and to offer all support that is within our possibilities. Please do not hesitate to get in touch with the IOI General Secretariat whenever we can contribute to your efforts during these times of national crisis.

> John R. Walters President of the IOI

Günther Kräuter Secretary General of the IOI

finder thanks