## Offices Dr. Claus Nordbruch

**Posbus 71380** 

ZA-0041 Die Wilgers

South Africa

Tel/Ruf: +27.83.2910095

Fax: +27.12.8110445

email/ePost: deutsa@mweb.co.za http://nordbruch.tripod.com

T & DP PO Box 64 Capshaw AL 35742 USA

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To whom it may concern

## **Affidavit**

I was born in Germany in 1961. In 1986 I emigrated to South Africa to study German, History, Criminology and Biology at the University of Pretoria and the University of South Africa respectively. Due to my thesis *Über die Pflicht* (About duty) I was awarded with a scientific award at the University of Bonn by the prominent German culture association, the Stiftung Ostdeutscher Kulturrat, in 1998.

Today, I am a professional author of mainly scholastic books on humane discipline with special experience in researching the subject of freedom of speech in Germany. Two of my respective books have been published in Germany so far. In 1998 one of the largest publishers in Germany published my book *Sind Gedanken noch frei? Zensur in Deutschland* (Are thoughts still free? Censorship in Germany) which empirically deals with the history of censorship in Germany and its application in the Federal Republic of Germany nowadays. In 1999 my book *Der Verfassungsschutz* followed, in which I scientifically pointed out both the function and activity of the political police, or literally

the "Offices to protect the constitution". Both books are out of print right now, but will be re-published this year. In various internationally acknowledged academic magazines (the American *Chronicles* for example), my results contributed to further research, a deeper consciousness, and a wider knowledge of the persecution of intellectual liberty in the Federal Republic of Germany. I also published in the Swiss mainstream daily *Neue Zürcher Zeitung* about the topic of suppression of freedom of speech in Germany.

In both books mentioned above I gave evidence, that in the Federal Republic of Germany censorship is generally common. Furthermore political persecution, for instance of historical dissidents, is realized on a almost weekly matter. I demonstrated and finally proved how the Federal German Government uses the "Verfassungsschutz" to slander political opponents, historical dissenters, and individuals who do not share official opinions. Most of these people are brought into context with "nazis", "revisionists", and "extremists" to discriminate them from social and economic life. Lots of these people not just loose their civil rights, but also are prosecuted and sentenced to large fines or terms in prison. Nota bene: These individuals are sentenced not because they committed a terrorist act or another crime in the true sense of the term, but simply because they committed a "thought-crime".

A free and constitutional form of government can mainly be identified by the degree to what extent both freedom of speech and freedom of information are granted to citizens and, furthermore, by the degree of protecting the rights and the dignity of the citizens. According to the factual procedures this does not positively reflect the actual status quo of the Federal Republic of Germany. In a truly free and constitutional state it is possible to have and to share opinions opposing state opinions without being threatened by prosecution and punishment – as long as these opinions are real opinions indeed and not confound with propagating character assassination or even with committing violent acts. Violence, off course, can never be an expression of opinion, but it can not serve to protect intellectual liberty either.

Argument and counter-argument build the essential fulcrum point of mental development. Even, and now with a vengeance, if such arguments might be controverse or sharply pronounced. The so-called other side of the official interpretation of historical events, however, is not heard in the Federal Republic of Germany. Fundamental criticsm on prescribed opinions neither.

There is a large variety of options to restrict and suppress unwanted opinions. Silencing to death, libelling, and discriminating are usual manners to do so. Unilateral political legal decisions and the one-sided discrimination against freedom of speech, freedom of information, freedom of science, freedom of assembly, hence, the intellectual liberty, are typical for a minded government (*Gesinnungsstaat*). The alledged liberal Federal Republic of Germany had been transformed into such a state.

Under those circumstances intellectual liberty can neither fluctuate nor survive. Truth is, at the moment some 10,000 people are persecuted and sentenced either to large fines or are sent to jail for many months, sometimes even years, just because they committed a "thought-crime". According to different independent studies, there are more political prisoners in the Federal Republic of Germany today than in the former communist German Democratic Republic.

After intensive research on the subject of freedom of speech, freedom of information, and freedom of research in the Federal Republic of Germany, I can conclude only, that the Federal Republic of Germany is a state where intellectual freedom is granted theoretically only, but not practically.

Dr Claus Nordbruch

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