



Voortouwcommissie: vaste commissie voor Buitenlandse Zaken

Activiteit: **Bijzondere procedure**Datum: woensdag 23 mei 2018
Tijd: 14.00 - 15.00 uur

Openbaar/besloten: openbaar

Onderwerp: Bill Browder inzake Magnitsky-Act

Agendapunt: Het lid Van Helvert ontvangt in het kader van de bijzondere procedure

de heer Bill Browder inzake Magnitsky-Act (zie bijgevoegde

informatie). U bent van harte welkom aan dit gesprek deel te nemen.

Zaak: Brief van lid/fractie/commissie - Tweede Kamerlid, M.J.F. van Helvert (CDA) -

5 april 2018

Voorstel bijzondere procedure Bill Browder inzake Magnitsky-Act. -

2018Z06328

Griffier: T.J.E. van Toor

Activiteitnummer: 2018A01476

Bill Browder

Bill Browder is the founder and CEO of Hermitage Capital Management, which was the investment adviser to the largest foreign investment fund in Russia until 2005, when Bill was denied entry to the country and declared a "threat to national security" as a result of his battle against corporate corruption.

Following his expulsion, the Russian authorities raided his offices, seized Hermitage Fund's investment companies and used them to steal \$230 million of taxes that the companies had previously paid. When Browder's lawyer, Sergei Magnitsky, investigated the crime, he was arrested by the same officers he implicated, tortured for 358 days, and killed in custody at the age of 37 in November 2009.

Since then, Browder has spent the last 5 years fighting for justice for Mr. Magnitsky. The Russian government exonerated and even promoted some of the officials involved so Browder took the case to America, where his campaigning led to the US Congress adopting the 'Sergei Magnitsky Rule of Law Accountability Act' in 2012, which imposed visa sanctions and asset freezes on those involved in the detention, ill-treatment and death of Sergei Magnitsky (as well as in other human rights abuses). This law was the first time the US sanctioned Russia in 35 years and became the model for all subsequent US sanctions against Russia. Browder is currently working to have similar legislation passed in Magnitsky's name across the European Union.