

C/ Muñoz Barrios, 2
Pozuelo de Alarcón
Madrid, Spain
February 2016

Dear HCCH Expert on Parentage / Surrogacy,

On behalf of **Women of the World Platform** and its 18 NGO Partners we provide you the **International Statement of experts for the abolition of surrogate motherhood** endorsed by our founder, the Spanish NGO '*Profesionales por la Ética*' –Professionals for the Ethics– which has been already supported by **53 worldwide civil society entities** and signed up by over **2,500 experts** including doctors, psychologists, psychiatrists, health staff, educators, jurists, academicians among other professions.

The NGOs that have supported this Statement are from **19 different countries**, and the specialists who somehow are related to surrogacy are nationals **from over 45 countries**. The Statement has been presented last year to the **Organization of American States** the 21st of August in Washington D.C.; on September 3rd to several Members of the **European Parliament** in Brussels; and to some Permanent Missions accredited to the **United Nations** as to the **High Commissioner for Human Rights** in Geneva the 9th of September.

In addition we are delighted to send you a copy of our concise Report '**Surrogate Motherhood - Wombs for hire: A new way of exploiting women and human trafficking**' where you can read our concerns and proposals regarding this practice, which is increasingly extending and consequently has to be addressed urgently.

During this week you are going to be discussing this issue along with other problems linked to surrogacy as filiation and parenting arrangements. We strongly encourage you to have a look to our highly qualified material in order to analyse surrogate motherhood from other perspective, to enrich the debate and therefore reach the best solution for the human beings involved in this practice.

Yours sincerely,

Ma. Luisa Peña
Board Member

WOMEN
OF THE WORLD