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**GENERAL PROSECUTOR'S OFFICE
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To Ye.P. Mashonskaya (representative of
Nikolas Cheropoulos)

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The General Prosecutor's Office examined the supervisory appeal against the decision of the Oktyabrsky District Court of the Minsk dated July 12, 2018, upheld by the ruling of the Judicial Panel for Civil Affairs of the Minsk City Court of September 10, 2018, on the dismissal of claims of Nikolas Cheropoulos in the lawsuit against L.A. Trafimovich about the return of the children.

According to Article 12 of the Convention on the Civil Aspects of International Child Abduction, concluded in the Hague on October 25, 1980, where a child has been wrongfully removed or retained in terms of Article 3 and, at the date of the commencement of the proceedings before the judicial or administrative authority of the Contracting State where the child is, a period of less than one year has elapsed from the date of the wrongful removal or retention, the authority concerned shall order the return of the child forthwith.

The judicial or administrative authority, even where the proceedings have been commenced after the expiration of the period of one year referred to in the preceding paragraph, shall also order the return of the child, unless it is demonstrated that the child is now settled in its new environment.

According to the case materials it appears that Nikolas Cheropoulos and L.A. Trafimovich met via the Internet in 2006. From 2008 to 2017, they lived together in the city of Stockholm, Kingdom of Sweden, have two minor daughters. In April 2017, L.A. Trafimovich departed with the children to the Republic of Belarus. Currently, they are living in Minsk in a comfortable three-room apartment, and are citizens of the Republic of Belarus.

Nikolas Cheropoulos filed a lawsuit for the return of the removed children.

The court found that during their stay in Sweden L.A. Trafimovich with the children visited Belarus with the consent of Nikolas Cheropoulos in order to visit relatives, draw up documents on the birth of the daughters, their registration in the apartment owned by her. In April 2017, L.A. Trafimovich removed the children without the written consent of their father. At the same time, Nikolas Cheropoulos knew that the youngest daughter needed to obtain a passport of a citizen of the Republic of Belarus.

The court, having examined the circumstances of the case, came to the justified conclusion that over a period of residence in the territory of the Republic of Belarus for more than one year, the children have fully settled into the living environment (they attend preschool institution, project and interest groups, Sunday schools, they have no language problems with communication). These circumstances are confirmed by the investigated evidence (the act of examining the living conditions and upbringing of the minors, the results of their psychological examination, pedagogical character references for the children), which the court have properly assessed. The findings of the court are consistent with the conclusion of the guardianship authority of the

Administration of the Oktyabrsky District of the City of Minsk, according to which it is advisable to determine the place of residence of the minors as the place of residence of their mother L.A. Trafimovich.

In connection with the foregoing, the court concluded that there were no violations of the provisions of the Convention and international law, and therefore legitimately refused to satisfy the stated requirements.

There are no grounds for the supervisory appeal.

Annex: 11 sheets

Deputy Prosecutor General
of the Republic of Belarus

/signed/

A.K. Stuk