

DNV·GL

Sofia, 18.06.2019 Ref.№ 27-19-1245

Professor Paula Vanninen Director VERIFIN

P.O 55 (A. I. Virtasen aukio 1) 00014 University of Helsinki Helsinki <u>Finland</u>

Dear Prof. Vanninen,

In June 2015 the Bulgarian Military Medical Academy requested the assistance of VERIFIN for examining the samples, related to severe organophosphorous chemical poisoning of two Bulgarian citizens. As a result, on June 18, 2015 VERIFIN produced a report, reg.no. VER-MS-0306. In the course of the ongoing investigation of the case, the report and its findings was brought to light and quoted in the media, despite its restricted designation. It is now public knowledge, that me and my son are the unfortunate victims of the poisoning.

In 2015 the initial Bulgarian investigation went into an impasse for the lack of sufficient information. It was not until after the poisonings in the UK in March 2018 that new facts started to surface out, revealing similarities in the two cases. As a result, the investigation of the attack against us has been reopened.

I can't thank you enough for the efforts of your team in analyzing the samples, which were sent to you by your Bulgarian colleagues in 2015 and which not only confirmed their general findings, but also showed a much more detailed picture of the poisonous substances. This is now believed to be a very important contribution for establishing the true facts.

It is our understanding, that after the case in the UK in 2018 chemical weapons scientists have increased their efforts in expanding the knowledge about the organophosphorous-based poisons. The OPCW is reviewing its relevant refence schedules. Also, Bulgarian and British investigators are adding new facts to their findings. As far as I am aware, among other things, the Bulgarian authorities have addressed the OPCW with a request for assistance.

I would like to inform you, that in view of the new circumstances I and my son have insisted that the samples are subjected to the full analytical capacity of the OPCW.

Dear Professor Vanninen,

In expressing again our deep appreciation of the work of VERIFIN, please be advised, that should there be a request from OPCW, related to our samples, we have given our consent for their further analysis.

I wish you all the best in all your endeavors,

Emilian Guebrev

