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60 Years of Contergan - Petition for a nationwide Anti-Corruption Law

Press release dated 26.09.2017

With a petition on the occasion of the 60th anniversary of the market launch of the pharmaceutical Contergan (thalidomide) by Grünenthal GmbH on 1 October 2017, Andreas Meyer (severely-damaged thalidomide victim) is calling upon the newly-elected Federal Parliament on 24 September 2017 to pass a nationwide Anti-Corruption Law!

The aim of the Anti-Corruption Law is to ensure that the often unholy and anti-democratic collusion between business and politics cannot arise and/or is subject to painful sanctions for those involved. This legislation will create a federal authority to combat corruption in relations between business and politics, with powers of prosecution.

Andreas Meyer explains: "Through the Contergan Foundation Act, the politicians of this country deprived me of my right to claim compensation and condemned me to the forced acceptance of charity, for the benefit of Grünenthal. This is degrading. And the taxpayer must pay the bill. In reality I am a Grünenthal victim. I do not wish to be in anybody's debt." Andreas Meyer is Chairman of the Bund Contergangeschädigter und Grünenthalopfer e.V. (BCG).

The outcome of the Contergan scandal reminds him, Meyer says, of many other business scandals. The main cost burden is borne by the tax-paying public; the companies causing the scandals pay only a fraction or nothing at all. The politicians have made this possible. The scandal victims and the public are in the same boat. For 30 years, Meyer has organised vigils before the gates of Grünenthal. Now, with the nationwide Anti-Corruption Law, he wants to give something back to the people. "60 years of Contergan are enough! The politicians have failed to protect the public from Grünenthal and other companies. Now it is time to protect the public from corrupt politicians," believes Meyer.

Meyer calls on all people to sign the petition.

Meyer also invites all organisations that support an Anti-Corruption Law to work together with him in this project for a "Nationwide Anti-Corruption Law".

Andreas Meyer's petition can be signed and shared at the following link:

openpetition.de/!mrklq

Background information:

http://www.gruenenthal-opfer.de/Statement_Andreas_Meyer_Feb_1s_2013

http://www.gruenenthal-opfer.de/press_hearing_thalidom_lawsuit_13_2_2017

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