

# Press Release

# Carter-Ruck

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## Carter-Ruck Solicitors

6 St Andrew Street  
London EC4A 3AE

T 020 7353 5005  
F 020 7353 5553  
DX 333 Chancery Lane  
[www.carter-ruck.com](http://www.carter-ruck.com)

## **COUNCIL OF THE EUROPEAN UNION REMOVES JOHN BREDEKAMP AND HIS COMPANIES FROM SANCTIONS LIST**

The Council of the European Union has today decided to remove John Bredenkamp and his companies from the list of individuals and entities subject to restrictive measures in respect of Zimbabwe.

Speaking today, Mr Bredenkamp said:

“The announcement today that, after three years, the EU has removed me and my companies from the Zimbabwe sanctions list is extremely welcome, but long overdue. The effect of the sanctions has been highly damaging to employees of my companies, many of which have ceased trading as a result of sanctions, and their families and dependants.

“Since January 2009, I have tried without success to establish the basis on which the decision to impose and maintain sanctions was made. Neither the EU nor the UK has responded to requests to provide such information, even though they were obliged by European Law to provide me with it.

“It was only as recently as November 2011 that I learned that Wikileaks published a cable from the US Embassy in London which recorded that the UK had requested a meeting with the US relating to sanctions generally. The meeting took place on 26<sup>th</sup> January 2009, the exact day on which sanctions were imposed on me originally by the EU. The UK government was recorded as telling the US Embassy that it believed the EU’s case against me to be **‘thin on evidence’**. [<http://wikileaks.org/cable/2009/01/09LONDON254.html>]

“Legal proceedings against both the EU and the UK will continue and I am unable to comment any further.

“Finally, I would like to thank the many people who have loyally supported me during the last three years and to say that without their support, I would have found an intolerable situation impossible to bear.”

For further information please contact Guy Martin at [Guy.Martin@carter-ruck.com](mailto:Guy.Martin@carter-ruck.com) or Dominic Garner at [Dominic.Garner@carter-ruck.com](mailto:Dominic.Garner@carter-ruck.com)

## Partners

Andrew Stephenson  
Alasdair Pepper  
Guy Martin  
Nigel Tait  
Ruth Collard  
Cameron Doley  
Claire Gill  
Adam Tudor  
Magnus Boyd  
Isabel Hudson

## Partnership Secretary

Helen Burluck

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