



**EU Presidency**

**EMBASSY OF GREECE**  
**Washington D.C.**

26 February, 2003

The Honorable  
Brad Henry  
Governor of Oklahoma  
State Capitol Building  
2300 N. Lincoln Blvd, Room 212  
Oklahoma City, OK 73105

Dear Governor Henry,

*The European Union has learnt that Mr. Scott Allen Hain is to be executed in the State of Oklahoma on April 3, 2003. On behalf of the European Union, Greece, as its current president, together with Italy, its subsequent president, and the European Commission, would like to make an urgent humanitarian appeal to spare the life of Mr. Hain.*

*Mr. Hain was 17 years old at the time of the crime, for which he has been sentenced to death. The European Union considers that in those countries, which have not yet abolished the death penalty, this penalty should not be imposed on persons under the age of 18 at the time of the crime.*

*The European Union opposes the death penalty in all cases and accordingly aims at its universal abolition, seeking a global moratorium on the death penalty as a first step, as explained at the EU Memorandum on the Death Penalty (it can be found on the web page : [www.eurunion.org/legislat/deathpenalty/eumemorandum.htm](http://www.eurunion.org/legislat/deathpenalty/eumemorandum.htm)). In countries that maintain the death penalty, the EU aims at the progressive restriction of its scope and respect for the strict conditions set forth in several international human rights instruments, under which the capital punishment may be used.*

*The EU strongly believes that the execution of juvenile offenders is contrary to widely accepted human rights norms and the minimum standards*

*of human rights set forth by the United Nations. A significant number of treaties, including treaties signed and ratified by the United States, prohibit such executions, specifically the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights (ICCPR) and the American Convention on Human Rights. Article 6 of the ICCPR – to which the United States is a party – explicitly forbids the execution of juvenile offenders.*

*We have requested Mr. Terry Jenks, Director of Pardon and Parole Board to submit to you a favorable recommendation regarding the commutation of Mr. Hain's sentence.*

*We therefore, respectfully urge you, Governor, to take all the aforementioned factors into account and to grant clemency in favor of Mr. Hain.*

*Sincerely,*

*George Savvaides  
Ambassador of Greece*

*Pierandrea Magistrati  
Minister,  
Charge d' Affaires a.i.*

*Gunter Burghardt  
Ambassador, Head of the  
Delegation of the European  
Commission*