



Eimear  
Lavelle/Office/Oireachtas  
12/12/2011 03.04 p.m.

To Eoin Kinane/Office/Oireachtas@HOUSES  
cc  
bcc  
Subject Fw: Call by Transparency International for independent investigation into Irish Red Cross



noel wardick  
<noelwardick@yahoo.com>  
12/12/2011 15:00  
Please respond to  
noel wardick  
<noelwardick@yahoo.com>

To "info@johnmcguinness.ie" <info@johnmcguinness.ie>  
cc "eimear.lavelle@oireachtas.ie"  
<eimear.lavelle@oireachtas.ie>  
Subject Call by Transparency International for independent investigation into Irish Red Cross

**To:** Mr. John McGuinness, TD and Chairman of the Public Accounts Committee (PAC)

**From:** Noel Wardick

Dear Deputy McGuinness,

Please find attached an open letter issued by Transparency International Ireland on 9th December 2011 to Minister Alan Shatter requesting an independent investigation into the Irish Red Cross. This letter is an open one and is currently available on the Transparency International Ireland website at the following link:

[http://www.transparency.ie/news\\_events/ti-ireland-open-letter-minister-alan-shatter-irish-red-cross](http://www.transparency.ie/news_events/ti-ireland-open-letter-minister-alan-shatter-irish-red-cross)

I would be obliged if you could share with fellow PAC members.

Yours sincerely,

Noel Wardick



TransparencyInternationalLetterMinisterShatter9thDec2011\_IRC.pdf

Mr Alan Shatter T.D.  
Minister for Justice, Equality and Defence  
Department of Justice and Equality  
94 St Stephen's Green  
Dublin 2

9 December 2011

Dear Minister Shatter,

I write on the occasion of UN Anti-Corruption Day to firstly congratulate the Irish Government on the ratification of the UN Convention against Corruption this year. We are convinced that this important legal instrument will help Ireland meet its commitments to reaching and maintaining international standards of good governance and are happy to offer whatever help your department should require in reviewing its implementation.

As you are aware, Article 33 of the Convention recognises the important role of good faith reporting in protecting the public interest.

I should therefore also use this opportunity to draw your attention to the continued concerns of Transparency International Ireland (TI Ireland) over the failure of the Irish Red Cross Society (IRC) to commission an independent investigation into reports of weak financial management and governance at the Society made by Mr Noel Wardick, former Head of the IRC's International Department.

Mr Wardick was dismissed on the grounds of gross misconduct on 10 November 2010 for having publicly commented on the governance of the IRC. He is still unemployed and unable to gain employment pending his appeal for unfair dismissal to the Employment Appeals Tribunal.

On 9 December 2010, TI Ireland wrote to the Central Council of the IRC encouraging them to commission an independent investigation into Mr Wardick's claims. In spite of the Comptroller and Auditor General's critical report into poor financial management of state funding at the IRC, no independent investigation has taken place into Mr Wardick's public statements on the management of public donations and governance at the charity.

We believe that the IRC's refusal to commission an independent investigation into his claims will serve as a great disincentive to anyone wishing to report financial irregularities or the risk of wrongdoing in the charity sector. We would therefore ask you to press upon the IRC the importance of an independent investigation into Mr Wardick's reports. Such a measure would not only help seek a fair resolution to all the parties in this case, but also serve the public interest.

Yours sincerely,



John Devitt  
Chief Executive