

# *U.N.A.F.T.C. ( Testimony )*

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BIENNIAL CONFERENCE of the BRAIN INJURY AND FAMILIES / EUROPEAN CONFEDERATION (BIF)



# *Vincent Lambert's Case (1/3)*

✦ **Vincent Lambert** is born on **09/20/76**, psychiatric nurse, victim of very serious traumatic brain injury linked to car's accident on **09/29/2008**.

## ✦ **Chronology:**

- Up to Jan. **2009** in intensive care unit in Chalon (3 Months )
- Up to March 2009, transferred in Neurology's unit without positive signal (3 M)
- Up to June **2009**, transferred in Awakenning's unit in Berck (3 M )
- Up to July **2011**, transferred in Care & Rehabilitation Unit (28 M) in Reims University Hospital
- Evaluated in Liège as **MCS**
- Admitted on Nov **2011** in Reims CHU Palliative Care Unit including Unresponsive Wakefulness Syndrome (UWS) / Minimally Conscious State (MCS) unit

**END OF 2012 4 Years away to accident and 1 Year to UWS/MCS**

# *Vincent Lambert's Case (2/3)*

## ✦ 2013

- **Dr Kariger** ( Head of Palliative Care Unit) starts Procedure of stop(ruling) of the nutrition and the hydration, considering as an unreasonable stubbornness to continue as is, after agreement of (VL) V Lambert's spouse but without his parents's one.
- **Administrative Court** called by VL's parents, requests to restart nutrition and hydration
- **Dr Kariger** restarts a new procedure with Parents's this time
- **Administrative Court** called by VL's parents, stop once more time the procedure by January 2014
- VL's spouse and VL's nephew raised the case to **Council of State** ( highest court of law)



# *Vincent Lambert's Case (3/3)*

- ✦ **UNAFTC** ask for Volunteer as Occurring(speaking) in front of Council of State as an accountable representative of TBI's family. ***This request has been recognized.***
  - ✦ **In June 2014**, the Council of State, following 3 expertize's advices and other Institute, cancel the Administrative Court's decision to stop Dr Kariger's procedure due to his « Vegetative State » and due to some reports from his relatives that VL wanted not stay Vegetative....
  - ✦ **In June 2015, European Court of Human Rights (ECtHR)** called by VL's Parents agreed with Council of State's decision as not in opposition to Human Rights and in accordance to Léonetti's law applied since April 2015.
  - ✦ **In July 2015**, Dr Simon as Dr Kariger's successor proceeded to 3rd request by consulting all the parties, but against all the odds, this has been put on hold ????
- ➔ **A nomination of an official legal guardian is requested ... still pending up to day**

# *UNAFTC's Actions & Question*

## **FACTS & REQUEST:**

- UNAFTC is pushing the Lawmaker to improve the text in order to take into consideration people who can't anymore decide by themselves, prior providing their decision, by increasing a collegial participation instead to let only 1 person ( Doctor ) to decide.
- To be noted that initiative is fully shared by all UNAFTC's members
- UNAFTC is requesting at Europe's level for people not able to express themselves to enlarge decision at collegial participation

## **QUESTIONS:**

- **WHAT IS DONE WITHIN YOUR RESPECTIVE COUNTRY ?**
- **WOULD YOU AGREE TO PUSH SUCH REQUEST ALTOGETHER ?**



**Many Thanks  
for your  
attention**