OPEN LETTER

Paris, 8 August 2024

Mette Frederiksen
Prime minister of Denmark
Christiansborg
Prins Jørgens Gård 11
1218 Copenhagen K - Denmark

Dear Prime Minister,

On 21 July, Captain Paul Watson, my friend and brother in arms, was arrested by the Danish authorities. **This was a scandalous, disgraceful, cowardly act which does not honour your country!** This man has devoted his life to the defence of an endangered species, majestic whales hunted at the very heart of the sanctuaries created to protect them.

The Japanese factory ships do nothing but poach and display their disdain for international rules on animal protection… **Prime minister, you cannot side with the camp of ocean gravediggers, be the poachers' accomplice, ignore the European legislation designed to protect cetaceans!**

President Emmanuel Macron has assured us that requests have been made to your government through diplomatic channels, I can assure you that in France we are concerned by Paul Watson's plight and are deeply shocked by Denmark's attitude.

Paul Watson deserves a gold medal for his courage and selfless work, he must not end up in a Japanese jail which would sign his death warrant… You must release him, and the Danish people must be aware of the injustice that is now taking place in their country, which is causing widespread protest action throughout the world.

Denmark's complicity in the massacres of pilot whales in the Faeroe Islands is already a disgrace. Do not add to this disgrace by presenting the Japanese poachers with the symbol of the fight against the plundering of the oceans. **You have a moral, ethical and humanistic duty to liberate my brother Paul. You must face the responsibility of this meeting with history!**

Yours sincerely

Brigitte Bardot
President