

## GLOBAL EXPATS PETITIONS THE AMERICANS ABROAD CAUCUS FOR AN OVERSIGHT HEARING OF THE US STATE DEPARTMENT

by Quenby Wilcox

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**Washington, DC** - Founder of Global Expats, Quenby Wilcox, announced today that she has petitioned Congressional members of the Americans Abroad Caucus to initiate an Oversight Hearing on the US Department of State, Consular Affairs Division's failure to assist American victims of domestic abuse living abroad, as provided for under the law. A copy of the letter is attached as well as posted on <http://worldpulse.com/node/64298>.

Ms. Wilcox's own legal battles with her ex-husband, former executive director at Banco Bilbao Vizcaya Argentaria (BBVA), one of Spain's leading banks, began in 2007 and were a result of her efforts to work outside the home and start a business, Global Expats—[www.global-xpats.com](http://www.global-xpats.com).

In the past 7 years, Ms. Wilcox has not only single-handedly fought her legal battles in Spain, but has repeatedly (and unsuccessfully) reclaimed her right for assistance and protection from the American Consulate in Madrid, as well as State Department officials in Washington, DC.

Unfortunately, Ms. Wilcox's experience with family courts, plagued by negligence, discrimination, and corruption are not unusual or unique, particularly in cases of domestic abuse. High profile international cases, such as Maria Jose Carrascosa, Ana Serrot, (in the Spanish press) and Kelly Rutherford (in the American press) have brought media attention to the plight of millions of women around the world.

Activists in the USA equate the widespread cover-up of domestic abuse by family courts to that seen in cover-ups by the Catholic Church, Penn State (Jerry Sandusky), Boy scouts, and the entertainment industry. Ms. Wilcox publishes a monthly Newsletter *Family Courts in Crisis* posted on <http://worldpulse.com/node/71182>, which exposes the problems and issues involved.

*Quenby Wilcox, is a career Expat and activist whose work focuses on domestic violence as a human rights violation, the advancement of women/homemaker's rights, and promoting the interests of expatriated citizens around the world. Her complaints regarding the issues at hand to the UN Commission on the Status of Women, Spanish Defensor del Pueblo, Consejo General del Poder Judicial, Instituto de la Mujer, Bar Association of Madrid, previous Press Releases, correspondence to US State Department officials during the past 7 years, and monthly Newsletter "Family Courts in Crisis," are all posted on [www.worldpulse.com/user/2759/journal](http://www.worldpulse.com/user/2759/journal).*

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