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## Against the licence to kill granted to the multinational companies of asbestos... and others by the French judicial institution

## Communiqué - July 1, 2017

Under a false pretext – the precise date of the contamination that caused the disease and the death of workers suffering from decades of occupational asbestos contamination would be unknown - the Paris Public Prosecutor's Departement is calling for an end to investigations into several criminal enquiries into the asbestos scandal in France. More than 100,000 deaths due to asbestos poisoning and how many more to come?

More than 21 years of instructions, procrastination, obstacles, mobilizations for a final humiliation launched in the face of the thousands of victims and their families: an infamy!... witnessed by the Collective of the Associations of the Asbestos Victims of the factories Eternit France (Collectif des Associations des Victimes de l'Amiante des usines Eternit France), in the communiqué attached to this call.

But this affair goes far beyond this killer fiber. If followed by the investigating judges, such a decision would plainly open the way to have the charges being dropped for lack of evidence in many emblematic pending cases. It would then set a legal precedent for other industrial crimes due to chemistry, pesticides, radioactivity, and other poisonings to heavy metals or endocrine disrupters....

The associations Ban Asbestos France and Henri Pézerat support the mobilization actions undertaken by the associations of asbestos victims of the Eternit France factories to denounce the attitude of the public authorities which criminalize trade union or associative activists, who act in defense of Victims of industrial crimes, while these authorities are indefinitely strengthening the impunity of white collar criminals responsible for thousands of deaths in France and in all countries producing and using asbestos.