**HSLDA Fights to Keep Romeike Family in the US**

Romeike family told to leave US in four weeks and return to Germany

**For Immediate Release**  **Contact:** Sandra Kim

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Purcellville, VA—Home School Legal Defense Association (HSLDA), the largest homeschool advocacy group in the United States, continues to defend Uwe and Hannelore Romeike and their seven children as they seek the freedom to homeschool their children in the United States—a freedom that is severely curtailed in their native land of Germany.

On Sept. 6, 2023, the Romeikes were told during a routine check-in at their local Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) Office that they had four weeks to secure passports and return to Germany. The news came without warning, and with no apparent cause or explanation.

“The Romeike family should be able to stay in the United States and home educate their children,” said HSLDA president Jim Mason. “America is a land of freedom and opportunity, and there are few freedoms or opportunities more important than the ability of parents to safely direct the education of their own children, without fear of punishment or persecution.”

The Romeike family decided in 2006 to home educate their children in Germany based on two core beliefs: a deep conviction that they were responsible to God for their children’s education, and a growing concern that the content of the German public school’s curriculum—particularly anti-Christian and sexual elements—threatened to harm their children. After enduring years of harassment, fines that exceeded their family income, and the forced removal of their children from their home, the family fled Germany.

In August of 2008, HSLDA assisted the Romeikes in securing visas to enter the United States, where they applied for asylum. The Department of Homeland Security granted the Romeikes asylum, but immigration officials overturned the decision. After five years of legal battles, the Obama administration granted the Romeikes indefinite deferred action status in 2013.

Over the last 10 years, the Romeikes have had to regularly report to their local ICE office in Tennessee, but have otherwise been allowed to live, work, and homeschool their children in peace. We are stunned to hear that the Romeikes have been ordered to return to Germany, and are actively working to secure their continued, lawful future here in the United States.

You can sign a petition in support of the Romeike family here: hslda.org/HelptheRomeikes2023  
See our website for more details: https://hslda.org/post/romeike

**About HSLDA**

Home School Legal Defense Association (HSLDA) is America’s largest and oldest homeschool advocacy organization. Founded in 1983 with the mission to make homeschooling possible for all families, the organization has helped empower millions of homeschooling parents and students. As a membership organization for families homeschooling their children, HSLDA provides a myriad of resources, from legal advice to educational consultants, to support member families through every step of their homeschool journey. Learn more about HSLDA at <https://hslda.org/>