

## Missing toddler found in Czech Republic with mother



By Rachel Lau, March 11, 2015



Maria Zabranska (left) and mother, Marcela Zabranska  
Surete du Quebec

MONTREAL – A missing two-year-old girl has been located in the Czech Republic, according to police.

Maria Zabranska was last seen when her mother, Marcela Zabranska, picked her up from her home in Saint-Jean-sur-Richelieu.

Zabranska, who lives in the Czech Republic, was visiting her daughter.

The toddler's father has primary custody.

He reported the girl missing when the mother failed to bring her back on Monday.

According to the [Missing Children's Network](#), around 300 Canadian children are victims of family abduction – something that can have lasting effects on a child's development.

The motive for family abduction often results from a dispute over custody.

Other times, one parent will abducts the child to express control, anger or revenge over the other parent.

### ***Signs of a possible parental abduction***

A parental abduction is rarely a spontaneous and impulsive gesture by the parent, but rather a well-thought out plan that may include the following:

- Resigning from one's job;
- Selling of property;
- Liquidating of assets;
- Closing of bank accounts;
- Applying for a passport.

### ***When is a parental abduction likely to occur?***

- During the exercise of visitation rights;
- A trip outside of the country with the child;
- Before or after a divorce or separation especially once legal custody has been granted.

“The child often struggles with difficult including fear, guilt, shame, confusion and divided loyalty feelings towards both parents,” said [Pina Arcamone, Director General of the Missing Children's Network](#).

“This instantaneous loss of community can lead to a lasting depression, the loss of a sense of security or stability, a compromised ability to trust oneself or others and a fear of abandonment.”

Police are currently trying to pin down the child's exact location and investigate how Zabranska was able to take her daughter out of the country.