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Alain Delon father of Ari Boulogne? – French justice returns to Switzerland

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French justice declared itself incompetent to judge a request for recognition in paternity addressed to the actor Alain Delon, because of the Swiss place of residence of the actor.

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Alain Delon, in 2019 at the Cannes film festival

AFP

Ari Boulogne, 58 years old, had filed an application for recognition of paternity before the court of Orleans (center) because Mr. Delon has a residence in this region.

Alain Delon never recognized the paternity of Ari Boulogne, son of the German singer Nico with whom he had a brief affair in the 1960s.

As a child, Ari was however raised by Alain Delon's own mother, Edith Boulogne, whose name he bears.

In an order dated August 27, consulted Monday by AFP and confirming information from the Journal du Dimanche, the judge "declares the French jurisdiction territorially incompetent and therefore refers the parties to better provide".

French justice considered that there was "a bundle of presumptions" sufficient to establish that the actor has his domicile in Switzerland, "since there is the center of his interests and his main establishment and this for several years ". The judge thus recalls that the main residence of Mr. Delon is in Switzerland, in Geneva ", adding that the actor resides on Swiss territory " since the end of 1984 according to the Swiss administration "and has been a Swiss citizen since 1999.

Mr. Delon "votes in Switzerland and receives treatment in Switzerland".

Orleans court

The court also indicates that the actor's youngest son "was educated in Switzerland and lived with his father in Geneva" and that Mr. Delon "votes in Switzerland and is treated in Switzerland".

The question of the competent jurisdiction is crucial in this case and this decision could put an end to the legal battle, according to Mr. Delon's lawyer, **Me Christophe Ayela**.

"In France there is a principle of international law, we apply the mother's right", the German singer Nico, and therefore German law in which the prescription does not exist for this type of legal action.

"In Switzerland, the plaintiff's law is applied, Ari Boulogne, the French law. If we apply French law, it is prescribed and it can be an end point, "the Parisian lawyer told AFP.

In France, the paternity action must be brought before the court of the place of residence of the person in respect of whom the child seeks to establish a bond of filiation. The child can initiate this action up to ten years after reaching the age of majority (18).

AFPE / mcz