

PUBLIC

AI Index: EUR 49/003/2005

16 March 2005

Further Information on UA 59/05 (EUR 49/002/2005, 11 March 2005) - Health concern

BELARUS

Mikhail Marinich (m), aged 65

Mikhail Marinich was transferred to a hospital in Minsk, on 15 March, from the Orsha prison colony. He had suffered a stroke on 7 March: the hospital, which is part of the prison system, has a neurological department and will reportedly be able to give him adequate treatment.

Mikhail Marinich is now at the republican hospital of correctional institutions no.1. In an interview published in the newspaper *Komsomolskaia Pravda v Belarusii* on 16 March, the head of the Ministry of Interior Department of Execution of Punishments said that Mikhail Marinich had been officially diagnosed as having had a stroke; he had been examined by a doctor of the Belarusian Scientific and Research Institute of Neurology, who had recommended that he be transferred to Minsk for further examination.

Many thanks to all those who sent appeals. Amnesty International will continue to monitor Mikhail Marinich's case closely, and take further action as necessary. Please send a final round of appeals, in English, Russian or your own language:

- welcoming the transfer of Mikhail Marinich to a hospital equipped to deal with his specific medical needs, following the stroke that he suffered on 7 March, and seeking assurances that he will be given all the medical treatment he requires;
- calling for him to be released immediately and unconditionally, as he is a prisoner of conscience, detained solely for the expression of his political beliefs and peaceful opposition activities.

APPEALS TO:

President

Alyaksandr G. LUKASHENKA

Karl Marx Str. 38

220016 g. Minsk, Belarus

Fax: +375 172 22 38 72

E-mail: pres@president.gov.by

press@president.gov.by

(via website): <http://www.president.gov.by/eng/president/mail.shtml>

Salutation: Dear President Lukashenka

General Prosecutor

Piotr MIKLASHEVICH

Internatsionalnaia Str. 22

220050 g. Minsk, Belarus

Fax: +375 172 26 41 66

Salutation: Dear General Prosecutor

Head of Prison Medical Service

Ministry of Internal Affairs

Committee for the Execution of Punishments

Vasili Zavadsky

Aranskaia Str. 1

220006 g. Minsk, Belarus

Fax: +375 172 26 18 06

E-mail: miapress@nsys.by (mark "for the attention of Vasili Zavadsky, Head of Prison Medical Service")

Salutation: Dear Mr. Zavadsky

COPIES TO:

Minister of Foreign Affairs

Sergei N. MARTYNOV

Lenin Str. 19

220030 g. Minsk, Belarus

Fax: +375 172 27 45 21

and to diplomatic representatives of Belarus accredited to your country.

PLEASE SEND APPEALS IMMEDIATELY. Check with the International Secretariat, or your section office, if sending appeals after 27 April 2005.