

EXTERNAL

AI Index: EUR 57/07/97

1 April 1997

Further information (3) on EXTRA 07/97 (EUR 57/02/97, 22 January 1997) and follow-up (EUR 57/03/97, 27 January 1997) - Fear of imminent execution

KAZAKSTAN Oleg Amiranovich GOROZASHVILI, aged 27

Amnesty International learned on 27 March that Oleg Gorozashvili, who has been sentenced to death for murder, is still alive but remains on death row. He awaits a decision by the authorities on whether to commute his death sentence or to begin judicial proceedings which might lead to the sentence being overturned.

Although a petition for clemency has already been turned down, Oleg Gorozashvili's lawyers and local human rights activists continue to argue that the sentence should be overturned on the grounds of serious investigative and judicial errors, including forced confession. As noted in the earlier follow-up Urgent Action of 27 January, the allegations that such errors took place have already been acknowledged as credible by at least one senior official.

International pressure through the Urgent Action network is thought to have played a decisive role in securing the current stay on Oleg Gorozashvili's execution. Discussion of the case by Supreme Court officials is reportedly due within the next two weeks, and renewed international pressure at this time may play an equally important role in preventing the execution of Oleg Gorozashvili altogether.

FURTHER RECOMMENDED ACTION: Please send telegrams/telexes/faxes/express/airmail letters in Russian, English or in your own language:

To the President of Kazakhstan:

- urging that he reconsider his decision not to grant clemency to Oleg Gorozashvili, and commute this and all other pending death sentences.

To the Chairman of the Supreme Court and the Procurator General:

- urging them to order an immediate judicial review of the case of Oleg Gorozashvili, in view of the allegations of violations of investigative and judicial procedure;
- urging that Oleg Gorozashvili's execution be stayed pending the outcome of this judicial review.

APPEALS TO:

The President of Kazakhstan, Nursultan Nazarbayev

Respublika Kazakhstan

480091 g. Almaty (Alma-Ata)

Pl. Respubliki, 4

Prezidentu Respubliki Kazakhstan NAZARBAYEVU N.A.

Telegrams: President Nazarbayev, Office of the President, 480091 Almaty, Kazakhstan

Faxes: +7 3272-63 76 33; +7 3272-63 70 33

Salutation: Dear President

The Chairman of the Supreme Court of Kazakhstan, Maksud Narikbayev

Respublika Kazakhstan

480103 g. Almaty (Alma-Ata)

ul. Sovetskaya, 66

Verkhovny Sud Respubliki Kazakhstan

Predsedatelyu NARIKBAYEVU M.S.

Telegrams: Chairman Narikbayev, Supreme Court, 480103 Almaty, Kazakstan
Salutation: Dear Chairman

The Procurator General of Kazakstan, Stepan Shutkin

Respublika Kazakhstan

480099 g. Almaty (Alma-Ata)

ul. Zheltoksan, 189

Prokuratura Respubliki Kazakhstan

Generalnomu prokuroru SHUTKINU S.

Telegrams: S. Shutkin, General Procuracy, 480099 Almaty, Kazakstan

Faxes: +7 3272 53 27 30

Salutation: Dear Procurator General

COPIES TO:

The Head of the Presidential Clemency Commission of Kazakstan, Igor Rogov

Respublika Kazakhstan

480091 g. Almaty

pl. Respubliki, 4

Komissiya po voprosam pomilovaniya

Zaveduyushemu otdelom ROGOVU I.

Faxes: +7 3272-63 76 33; +7 3272-63 70 33

Telegrams: Kazakstan, Almaty, Komissiya pomilovaniya

Salutation: Dear Sir

Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Kazakstan, Kasymzhomart Kemel-uly
Tokayev

Respublika Kazakhstan

g. Almaty (Alma-Ata)

Ministerstvo inostrannykh del Respubliki Kazakhstan

Ministru TOKAYEVU K.K.

Faxes: +7 3272-63 13 87

and to diplomatic representatives of Kazakstan accredited to your country.

PLEASE SEND APPEALS IMMEDIATELY. Check with the International Secretariat,
or your section office, if sending appeals after 29 April 1997.