

URGENT ACTION

EMANUEL ZELTSER RELEASED

Emanuel Zeltser was pardoned on 30 June by the Belarusian president, Alyaksandr Lukashenka. He was released a few hours later.

US national Emanuel Zeltser had been arrested on 12 March 2008 as he arrived by plane in Belarus. Nine days later he was charged with "use of forged documents." He was sentenced on 11 August 2008 to three years in prison for "using false official documents" and "economic espionage" following a closed trial. An appeal to the Supreme Court was denied on 31 October 2008, also in a closed hearing.

No further action is requested from the UA network. Many thanks to all who sent appeals.

This is the fourth update of UA 121/08 (EUR 49/006/2008).

Further information:

www.amnesty.org/en/library/info/EUR49/006/2008/en

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Further information on UA: 121/08 Index: EUR 49/007/2009 Issue Date: 13 July 2009

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