

EXTERNAL

AI Index: EUR 49/13/97

12 September 1997

Further information on UA 245/97 (EUR 49/09/97, 30 July 1997) and follow-ups (EUR 49/11/97, 8 August and EUR 49/12/97, 21 August) - Prisoners of Conscience / Fear of ill-treatment and new Health concern

BELARUS Pavel Sheremet, journalist  
Dmitry Zavadsky, journalist  
                    Yaroslav Ovchinnikov, driver  
Anatoly Adamchuk, aged 22, journalist  
Aleksandr Oganov, journalist  
Valery Astashkin, journalist  
Uladzimir Kostsin, journalist

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Of those named above, only Pavel Sheremet remains in detention. The others have all now been released although charges against them remain.

Dmitry Zavadsky was released on 4 September 1997 after having written an appeal for release to the Belorussian President. After his release, however, he reportedly claimed that he had been framed and that his letter had been interpreted as a confession of guilt by the Belorussian authorities. Dmitry Zavadsky has also said that Pavel Sheremet is suffering from bronchitis in detention.

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

- calling for the immediate and unconditional release of Pavel Sheremet, detained for his professional non-violent activities as a journalist;
- expressing concern at reports that he is ill, and urging that he be granted all necessary medical attention;
- welcoming the releases, but calling for the charges against Dmitry Zavadsky and Yaroslav Ovchinnikov to be dropped, and for the charges against the other four journalists to be dropped if they are simply due to their having sought to exercise their right to freedom of expression.

**APPEALS TO:**

The President of Belarus, Alyaksandr Lukashenka  
Respublika Belarus  
220010 g. Minsk  
pl. Nezavisimosti  
Apparat Prezidenta Respubliki Belarus  
Prezidentu Respubliki Belarus Lukashenka A.H  
BELARUS

**Telegrams: Prezidentu Lukashenka, Minsk, Belarus**  
**Faxes: + 375 172 23-58-25**  
**Salutation: Dear President**

The Procurator General of Belarus, Aleh Bozhelko  
Respublika Belarus  
220050 g. Minsk  
Ul. Internatsionalnaya, 22  
Prokuratura Respubliki Belarus  
Generalnomu prokuroru BOZHELKU A.  
BELARUS

**Telegrams: Generalnomu prokuroru, Minsk, Belarus**

**Salutation: Dear Procurator General**

Minister of Internal Affairs of the Republic of Belarus, Agolets, (first name not known)

Respublika Belarus

g. Minsk

Ul. Urytskaha, 5

Ministerstvo vnutrennikh del Respubliki Belarus

Ministru Agoletsu

BELARUS

**Telegrams: Ministerstvo vnutrennikh del, Minsk, Belarus**

**Faxes: +375 172 26-12-47**

**Salutation: Dear Minister**

**COPIES TO:**

The Minister of Foreign Affairs of Belarus, Ivan Antonovich

Respublika Belarus

220030 g.Minsk

Ul. Lenina, 19

Ministerstvo inostrannykh del Respubliki Belarus

Ministru Antonovich I.

BELARUS

**Faxes: + 375 172 27-45-21**

**Fax numbers provided may also be telephone lines, therefore please request "fax" if answered by a person.**

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 25 October 1997.