

AMNESTY INTERNATIONAL

Media Advisory

AI index: EUR 64/005/2011
11 February 2011

Amnesty International responds to Croatia government on war crimes

Amnesty International today is publishing its [Response to the observations of the Croatian Ministry of Justice](#) on Amnesty International's 2010 report, [Behind a wall of silence: Prosecution of war crimes in Croatia](#). The report highlights the impunity for crimes committed during the 1991-1995 war in Croatia.

Amnesty International addresses the misrepresentation of some facts in the report and challenges certain positions of the Croatian Ministry of Justice.

The organization is extremely concerned by the position taken by the Ministry regarding Vladimir Šeks, at present Deputy Speaker of the Croatian Parliament, in relation to his potential command responsibility for war crimes.

The refusal by the Ministry to consider whether evidence in the public domain may warrant an investigation demonstrates a troubling lack of impartiality. This may be perceived as pressure on the independence of the justice system, including the State Prosecutor's Office, whose responsibility it is to investigate such evidence.

Amnesty International reiterates its overall conclusions that despite some progress in a number of areas, there remain serious shortcomings in the prosecution of war crimes in Croatia.

Amnesty International releases today a [video](#) highlighting the need for greater political will in Croatia to investigate and prosecute the hundreds of war crimes that remain unresolved.

The organization calls on its members to write to the Croatian authorities urging them to address the ongoing impunity for war crimes.

See:

[Croatia: protect war crimes witnesses](#)

Links to download the video featuring interviews with the widow of Milan Levar, murdered in 2000, and with Marek Marczyński, Croatia Researcher at Amnesty International:

ENGLISH: <https://adam.amnesty.org/asset-bank/action/viewAsset?id=126455>

INTERNATIONAL: <https://adam.amnesty.org/asset-bank/action/viewAsset?id=126470>

YOUTUBE: http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=kEuf0bh_v78

For further information and to arrange for an interview, please contact:

Lydia Aroyo, Press Officer at the International Secretariat of Amnesty International, +44 (0) 7771 796 350 or laroyo@amnesty.org.