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News Flash

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Russian Federation: Journalist and environmental activist Pasko remains imprisoned

Amnesty International delegates present in the Supreme Court in Moscow today, expressed their dismay at the court's failure to overturn Grigory Pasko's conviction.

The Military Collegium of the Supreme Court upheld a previous decision by a Vladivostok military court that sentenced Pasko to four years in a labour camp. The prosecution alleged that he gathered information with the intention of handing it over to Japanese media. The prosecution against Grigory Pasko appears motivated by political reprisal for exposing the practice of dumping nuclear waste into the Sea of Japan, as well as alleged corruption within the higher military command of the Russian Pacific fleet.

Since all domestic remedies in this case have now been exhausted, the next step in seeking justice for Grigory Pasko is an appeal to the European Court of Human Rights.

Amnesty International continues to call for Pasko's immediate and unconditional release. The organization adopted the Russian journalist and environmental activist as a prisoner of conscience in January 2002.

Mariana Katarova, Amnesty International's researcher, who was present at today's trial, is available for interview on: + 44 7778 472 107.

Public Document

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