

EXTERNAL

AI Index: EUR 50/06/96

24 April 1996

Further information (3) on EXTRA 06/96 (EUR 50/01/96, 15 January 1996) and follow-up (EUR 50/04/96, 27 February 1996 and EUR 50/05/96, 10 April 1996) - Fear of Imminent Execution

UKRAINE Vitaly GUMENYUK, aged 24

President Leonid Kuchma of Ukraine gave assurances yesterday that he would devote special attention to the case of Vitaly Gumenyuk.

Amnesty International has learned that during the Plenary Session of the Parliamentary Assembly of the Council of Europe of 23 April 1996, Senator Imanol Bolinaga of the Basque Nationalist Party intervened on behalf of Vitaly Gumenyuk and urged President Kuchma to do everything in his power to stop his execution. President Kuchma confirmed that he would look into his case.

In response to previous Urgent Actions on the death penalty in Ukraine, the Ukrainian Embassy in Canada recently issued a statement which confirms that no official legislation to abolish the death penalty has as yet been passed in Ukraine and a moratorium on executions has not been imposed. This is despite the fact that Ukraine, by having joined the Council of Europe on 9 November 1995, has committed itself to impose an immediate moratorium on executions and to abolish the death penalty within three years.

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

- welcoming President Kuchma's assurances to the Parliamentary Assembly of the Council of Europe to look into Vitaly Gumenyuk's case;
- urging President Kuchma to reverse his decision to refuse clemency to Vitaly Gumenyuk, to stop the execution and to commute all other death sentences that come before him;
- urging the Ukrainian authorities to ensure that, as a member of the Council of Europe, they fully respect all commitments undertaken to impose an immediate moratorium on executions, and to abolish the death penalty within three years.

APPEALS TO:

President of Ukraine, Leonid Kuchma

Ukraina

252601 Kiev

ul. Bankovaya, 7

Prezidentu Ukrainy Kuchma L.

Faxes: (380 44) 291 61 61

Telegrams: Ukraina, Kiev, Prezidentu Kuchma

Salutation: Dear President

COPIES TO:

Chairman of the Presidential Clemency Commission, Pyotr Andreychenko

Ukraina

252220 g. Kiev

ul. Bankovaya, 7

Kommissiya po voprosam pomilovaniya pri Prezidente

Predsedatelyu ANDREYCHENKO P.

Faxes: (380 44) 291 61 61

Procurator General of Ukraine, Grigory Vorsinov

Ukraina

252601 g. Kiev II

ul. Reznitskaya, 13/15

Prokuratura Ukrainy

Generalnomu prokuroru VORSINOVU G.

Faxes: (380 44) 290 26 03

Chairman of the Supreme Court of Ukraine, Vitaly BOYKO

Ukraina

252601 g. Kiev 24 GSP

ul. M. Grushevskogo

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Minister of Foreign Affairs of Ukraine, Hennady UDOVENKO

Ukraina

252501 g. Kiev 24

ul. Karla Liebknecht 15/1

Ministerstvo inostrannykh del

Ministru UDOVENKO H.

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and to diplomatic representatives of Ukraine accredited to your country.

PLEASE SEND APPEALS IMMEDIATELY. Check with the International Secretariat, or your section office, if sending appeals after 5 June 1996.