

EXTERNAL

AI Index: EUR 50/18/96

4 December 1996

Further information on EXTRA 124/95 (EUR 50/17/96, 24 October 1995) and follow-up (50/03/96, 26 February 1996) - Reports of continuing executions despite moratorium

UKRAINE Maksim Artsyuk, aged 29

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Amnesty International fears that Maksim Artsyuk may have been executed in August 1996, following reports that he was transferred to Dnipropetrovsk prison on 27 August. As of 5 November his family had still not been officially informed of his fate, but based on observed patterns, it is believed that death row prisoners are usually executed only one or two days after transferral to Dnipropetrovsk.

Maksim Artsyuk was sentenced to death on 15 June 1994 for premeditated murder. His sentence was confirmed by the Ukrainian Supreme Court on 27 November 1995.

Maksim's mother writes, *"Of course, we understand that our view on Maksim's case is not completely objective, but despite this we ask you to intervene to protect human rights in Ukraine and in Crimea...Maksim has a five-year-old daughter, is it possible that she will grow up without her father, who she remembers, loves and for whom she is waiting?"*

A Council of Europe representative reported at a press conference on 29 November in Kiev that over 100 people had been executed in Ukraine since the beginning of 1996, in direct violation of the country's commitment to implement a moratorium on executions following its accession to the Council of Europe on 9 November 1995.

**FURTHER RECOMMENDED ACTION: please send telegrams/faxes/letters in English, Ukrainian or Russian:**

- asking for clarification as to the fate of Maksim Artsyuk following his transferral to Dnipropetrovsk prison on 27 August 1996 and urging that his family be informed;
- expressing your abhorrence at the continuing application of the death penalty and urging the authorities to fulfil Ukraine's commitment to the Council of Europe and immediately stop all executions.

**APPEALS TO:**

President of Ukraine, Leonid KUCHMA

Ukraina

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Prezidentu Ukrainy Kuchma L.

**Faxes: +380 44 291 61 61**

**Telegrams: Ukraina, Kiev, Prezidentu Kuchma**

**Salutation: Dear President**

Chairman of the Supreme Court of Ukraine, Vitaly BOYKO

Ukraina

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ul. M. Grushevskogo

Verkhovny Sud Ukrainy

Predsedatelyu Boyko V.

**Telegrams: Ukraina, Kiev, Verkhovny Sud**  
**Salutation: Dear Chairman**

Chairman of the Parliamentary Commission for Legal Policy and Court and Legal Reform, Volodymyr STRETOVYCH

Ukraina

252019 g. Kiev

ul. M. Grushevskogo, 5

Kommissiya po zakonodatelnym prepolozheniyam i reforme sudebnoy i pravovoy sistemy pri Verkhovnom Sovete Ukrainy

Predsedatelyu STRETOVYCHU V.

**Telegrams: Ukriana, Kiev, Kommissiya zakodatelstva Verknovnogo Soveta**

**Salutation: Dear Chairman**

Chairman of the Parliamentary Commission on Legal Affairs, Law and Order, Leonid BORODICH

Ukraina

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Kommissiya po voprosam zakonnosti, prava i pravoporyadka pri Verkovnom Sovete Ukrainy

Predsedatelyu BORODICHU L

**Telegrams: Ukriana, Kiev, Kommissiya pravoporyadki Verkovnogo Soveta**

**Salutation: Dear Chairman**

**COPIES TO:**

Foreign Minister of Ukraine, Hennady UDOVENKO

Ukraina

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Ministerstvo inostrannykh del

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Procurator General of Ukraine, Grigory VORSINOV

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Prokuratura Ukrainy

Generalnomu prokuroru VORSINOVU G.

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The Director of Dnipropetrovsk SIZO 308/1, name not known

Ukraina

Dnipropetrovskaya oblast

Dnipropetrovsk

SIZO 308/1

Direktory

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 15 January 1997.