

URGENT ACTION

SYRIAN REFUGEE RELEASED FROM AIRPORT DETENTION

Syrian refugee M.K., who had been arbitrarily detained at Istanbul's Sabiha Gökçen airport since 9 November 2015, was released on 29 March. He is required to go to the central Anatolian province of Aksaray to await a decision on his international protection application. He will not be detained while awaiting the decision.

On Saturday 26 March, M.K. was released from Sabiha Gökçen airport and taken to a nearby police station, where he was kept until Monday 28 March. On 28 March a decision to release him by the Directorate General of Migration Management (DGMM) was issued. M.K. has been given eight days to move to Aksaray province, in central Anatolia, where he is required to reside. He will also need to fulfil reporting requirements, such as signing in on a regular basis at the provincial DGMM office, until a decision is made regarding his application for international protection.

Speaking to Amnesty International on 29 March, as he was waiting to be released, M.K. thanked all those who sent appeals on his behalf and said he was very happy to finally be free.

Many thanks to those who sent appeals. No further action is required from the UA network.

This is the first update of UA 45/16. Further information: <https://www.amnesty.org/en/documents/EUR44/3562/2016/en/>

Name: M.K. (name withheld for security reasons)

Gender m/f: male

Further information on UA: 45/16 Index: EUR 44/3738/2016 Issue Date: 30 March 2016

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