

News Service 63/00

AI Index: EUR 46/25/00  
3 April 2000

**MEDIA ADVISORY**

**Amnesty International researcher on Chechnya available for interviews in Strasbourg**

Amnesty International's researcher on the Russian Federation including Chechnya, Mariana Katzarova, has just returned from a research visit to Ingushetia, a Russian Republic bordering Chechnya.

During this visit Amnesty International has collected a number of corroborating testimonies detailing the human rights abuses that occur within Russian-run "filtration camps": *rape of male and female detainees -- including children, the use of electric shocks and tear gas, beatings with hammers and clubs, and other torture methods, including sawing off detainees' teeth and simultaneous beating around both ears to burst the ear-drums.*

Ms Katzarova is available for interviews in Strasbourg where she is currently sharing information with members of the Parliamentary Assembly of the Council of Europe. She can be contacted directly on her mobile number. Alternatively, she can be found during Monday April 3 outside the hemicycle in the Council of Europe.

**Mariana Katzarova**

**Amnesty International (researcher on Russian Federation, including Chechnya)  
international mobile: +44 7778 352 989**

ENDS.../

\*\*\*\*\*

*For more information please call Amnesty International's press office in London, UK, on 44 171 413 5808, mobile + 44 7778 472 119, or visit our website at <http://www.amnesty.org>*