

# URGENT ACTION

## UKRAINIAN FORCIBLY HOSPITALISED BY POLICE

**32-year-old Rostislav Chapran has been locked up in a psychiatric hospital in Ukraine. Police are demanding a 3,000 Euro bribe from his parents for his release.**

On 4 April, **Rostislav Chapran** went to Lvov police station after being told that the police were looking for him. Relatives had told him that officers had enquired about his whereabouts, but none of the relatives were told why he was wanted. After a friend who worked in the police suggested that they might just want to talk he decided to go, but his father gave him \$60 “just in case”. It is commonplace in Ukraine for individuals dealing with the police to have to pay a bribe.

When he went to the police station he was charged with a “hooliganism” offence and sentenced to 15 days administrative detention. Police claim he was shouting in the street. He was held in a pre-trial detention facility in Lvov. On 19 April, at the end of his sentence, he was told that he had been accused of attempted murder in connection with a fight he had been involved in, in 1999.

Also on 19 April, his mother and stepfather, who live and work in Belgium, received a text message telling them to call the number to discuss their son. When they phoned the number, they were told that they were speaking to a police investigator. They told Amnesty International that the investigator asked for 3,000 Euros to release their son. The parents could hear music and drunken voices in the background. Rostislav Chapran continued to be held in detention, without any legal justification, for another 10 days.

In late April he was transferred to a psychiatric hospital, where the authorities claim he is being forcibly held for psychiatric examination. Rostislav Chapran’s family and lawyer have been given no legal grounds for his detention.

His parents have hired a lawyer, but officials have prevented him from visiting Rostislav Chapran in the hospital. Rostislav Chapran managed to call his father and told him that there were other young men on the psychiatric ward whose parents were also working abroad and who had also been asked for ransoms.

### PLEASE WRITE IMMEDIATELY in Ukrainian, Russian, English or your own language:

- Asking for Rostislav Chapran to be immediately released as he has not been charged with any criminal offence and his forced hospitalization has not been authorised by the appropriate authorities;
- Stating that if Rostislav Chapran has committed any offence he must be charged and tried in accordance with international fair trial standards;
- Calling for an investigation into the allegation that police officers asked for a bribe in order to release him;
- Calling for an investigation into the allegation that hospital staff are complicit in unauthorized forced hospitalizations.

### PLEASE SEND APPEALS BEFORE 27 JUNE 2011 TO:

#### Prosecutor General

Viktor Pavlovich Pshonka  
Riznitska Str. 13/15  
01601 Kyiv  
Ukraine  
Fax: + 380 44 280 2851

Salutation: Dear General Prosecutor

#### Minister for Internal Affairs

Anatoly Vladimirovich Mogilev  
Akademika Bogomoltsa Str. 10  
01024 Kyiv  
Ukraine  
Fax: +380 44 256 16 33  
Email: [mvsinfo@mvsinfo.gov.ua](mailto:mvsinfo@mvsinfo.gov.ua)

Salutation: Dear Minister

#### And copies to:

#### Ombudsman

Nina Karpachova  
Vul Instytutska 21/8  
01008 Kyiv, Ukraine  
Email: [omb@ombudsman.kiev.ua](mailto:omb@ombudsman.kiev.ua)

Salutation: Dear Ombudsman

Also send copies to diplomatic representatives accredited to your country. Check with your section office if sending appeals after the above date.

UA: 146/11 Index: EUR 50/007/2011 Issue Date: 19 May 2011

**AMNESTY  
INTERNATIONAL**

