



EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT

Member of the European Parliament

Brussels, 12.05.2016

**Mr. Sedrisov Vasilij Vasiliyevich**  
**Head of the Federal State Institution**  
**Penal Colony No.31**  
**of the Department of the Federal**  
**Penitentiary Service of the Russian**  
**Federation in the Komi Republic**

169060, Russian Federation, the Komi  
Republic, Ust-Vym District, Mikun,  
Vostochnaya Street

Dear Mr. Sedrisov Vasilij Vasiliyevich,

I am writing to you as a Member of the European Parliament, deeply concerned about the condition of **Gennadiy Afanasyev**, a Ukrainian citizen who was sentenced to serve a 7 year sentence in your prison.

Mr. Afanasyev is reported to be in need of medical treatment following harsh detention conditions, as well as being subject to torture and inhumane treatment. I am writing to urge you to guarantee Mr. Afanasyev's well-being, provide him with humane and considerate detention conditions, as well as medical treatment, visitation rights by NGOs, contact with loved ones, and legal representation.

Such humane treatment, including access to health care, healthy diet, and education material, is in line with international human rights norms, particularly Council of Europe rules and guidelines on conditions of prisoners, to which Russia is committed. As the prison warden, ensuring such dignified and humane treatment, and especially access to much needed health care, is your direct individual responsibility.

Mr. Afanasyev is one of a group of Ukrainian citizens that were unlawfully detained by Russian forces in Ukraine, falsely accused of war crimes or terrorism, and then subjected to torture, and fabricated show-trials. Mr. Afanasyev was forced to incriminate his co-defendants during interrogation, but then recanted his initial testimony, and clearly stated it had been given under torture and psychological duress.

International organisations and politicians such as myself are deeply concerned about these unlawful arrests. We are following these prisoners' situation closely, and are working to secure their release.

I would like to ask you for assurances that Gennadiy Afanasyev is being treated humanely, and being provided with the medical treatment he requires.

Many thanks,

Julie Ward MEP

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