

Brussels, 2 September, 2015

**Ms Nina Vajić, Chairperson  
Commission for the Control of INTERPOL's Files (CCF)  
200, quai Charles de Gaulle  
69006 Lyon, France**

Dear Ms Vajić,

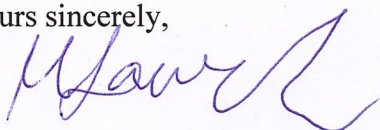
As an Estonian Member of the European Parliament, I am writing in relation to the situation of a Russian citizen Mr Pavel Zabelin, who obtained an asylum in Estonia on 30 August, 2007. On 30 June, 2015, the Russian authorities reopened the politically motivated case against famous dissident, Mr Mikhail Khodorkovsky and the YUKOS oil company. There are now new signals of emerging threat to his colleagues and associates, one of whom is Mr Zabelin.

The history of persecution of Mr Zabelin and his family, colleagues and associates has a clear political background. It is well known to the Estonian authorities since his case was being examined when he had applied for asylum, as well as when the Harju County Court rejected his extradition to Russia on 27 February, 2008.

To my best knowledge, Mr Zabelin's life and personal safety might again be at risk as Russian authorities are giving high political priority to mobilising support to its own version of Mr Khodorkovsky's case – including by looking for ways to bring “witnesses” to the court

Therefore, bearing in mind such information and the Article 3 of the Interpol's Constitution, which “*strictly forbids (...) to undertake any intervention or activities of a political, military, religious or racial character*”, I would like to ask you to remove Mr Zabelin's name from the Interpol's Red Notice system. Due to an ongoing persecution by the Russian authorities, Mr Zabelin is not only effectively prevented from traveling to countries other than Estonia, Germany and the United States, all of which recognized the political nature of his and Mr Khodorkovsky's case, but is also at risk of being arrested and extradited to Russia.

Yours sincerely,



Marju Lauristin  
Member of the European Parliament