

Brussels, 24.05.2016

Member of the European Parliament

Mr. Pozdeyev Sergey Leonidovich Head of the Federal State Institution Penal Colony No.5 of the Department of the Federal Penitentiary Service of the Russian Federation in Kirov Province

> 613040, Russian Federation, Kirov Province, Kirovo-Chepetsk, 16 Ovrazhnaya Street

Dear Mr. Pozdeyev Sergey Leonidovich,

I am writing to you as a Member of the European Parliament, deeply concerned about the condition of **Oleksandr Kostenko**, a Ukrainian citizen who is currently serving a 3 year and 11 months sentence in your prison, for allegedly throwing a stone at a police officer during a pro-democracy demonstration in Kyiv, Ukraine.

Mr. Kostenko is reported to be in need of medical treatment following torture and inhumane treatment, while his exact condition is unknown. I am writing to urge you to guarantee Mr. Kostenko'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.

I kindly ask you to inform me and other concerned Members of the European Parliament of Kostenko's condition.

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 health care, is your direct individual responsibility.

Mr. Kostenko is one of a group of Ukrainian citizens that were unlawfully detained by Russian forces in Ukraine, falsely accused of war crimes, terrorism, or other offences, and then subjected to torture, and fabricated show-trials. Kostenko's trial and sentence are in breach of the Russian law, as he was tried and is now imprisoned in Russia for an alleged crime that he allegedly committed in Ukraine against another Ukrainian citizen.

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 Oleksandr Kostenko is being treated humanely, and being provided with the medical treatment, contact with loved ones, and legal representation as he requires.

Many thanks,

Julie Ward MEP