



*Delegation of the Czech Republic
to the Parliamentary Assembly of the
Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe*

IVANA DOBEŠOVÁ

Head of the Czech Delegation to the OSCE PA

*Chamber of Deputies, Sněmovní 4, 118 26, Prague 1- Malá Strana
Czech Republic*

Prague, 31 August, 2015

**Head of State Institution
'The Penal Colony LA 155/14'
Mr Abylgazy Idilov**

**Zarechnyy village
Illiysky district
Almaty Province, 040805**

Mr. Idilov,

Let me address you as a Member of the Czech Parliament, Head of the Czech National Delegation to the Parliamentary Assembly of the OSCE and Vice-Chair of the General Committee on Democracy, Human Rights and Humanitarian Questions of the OSCE PA, in order to follow-up on very worrying articles and reports by international media and non-governmental organisations on the current situation on Mr. Vladimir Kozlov, leader of an unregistered opposition party Alga!, who is currently detained in your facility.

According to the recent information published by the independent journalists and human rights defenders, Mr. Kozlov received a punitive measure and was sent on 17 July 2015 to a 10-day long solitary confinement for allegedly breaking prison rules and threatening other inmates with aggressive behaviour. As a sign of protest, soon after, Mr. Kozlov began a hunger strike, which he ended following the visit of a National Preventive Mechanism delegation to your detention facility on 21 July 2015. As the solitary confinement punitive measure was reviewed, he was then subsequently sent to a strict-regime part of prison for a period of 6 months.

As to my knowledge, similar punitive measures have been inflicted upon Mr. Kozlov on numerous occasions over the last years, often without any explanation or based on dubious proof of alleged breaking of prison rules.

Sending Mr. Kozlov to an increased regime prison block for 6 months can not only impede his potential release on parole, to which he will have matured the right later this year but

may, first and foremost, prove extremely detrimental to his already poor health conditions. As you very well know, Mr. Kozlov suffers from heart disease, varicose veins and vascular system disorders.

As a member of an international organisation that is tasked with monitoring human rights issues in the OSCE area, I urge you to make sure that Mr. Kozlov is able to access rightfully all available measures, including the right to parole, once he will have served half of his initial sentence.

I would appreciate if you could also update me on the current state of Mr. Kozlov's health, as well as his right to see a lawyer, his wife and other family members.

Sincerely yours,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, consisting of several loops and a long horizontal stroke, positioned on the right side of the page.