

URGENT ACTION

EUROMAYDAN ORGANIZER DISAPPEARED

Amnesty International is gravely concerned for the wellbeing of Dmitrii Bulatov, a prominent activist in the Euromaydan demonstrations in Kyiv, Ukraine. His family have not heard from him since the evening of 22 January and believe he has been abducted.

Dmitrii Bulatov has not made contact with family or friends since 11pm pm on 22 January. Dmitrii Bulatov is one of the main organizers and participants of the Automaydan rallies whereby convoys of cars participate in the Euromaydan demonstrations which have been ongoing in Kyiv since November 2013. He would be well known to the Ukrainian authorities for his activism.

According to information received by Amnesty International, Dmitrii Bulatov had been active all day on Wednesday 22 January, organizing further protest actions and attending meetings. His disappearance preceded an attack by the Ukrainian riot police in the early hours of Thursday 23 January on a convoy of cars of protestors, during which cars were smashed and protestors were reportedly taken away to an unknown location. Although Dmitrii Bulatov was not in the convoy, there are fears that the authorities were rounding up people involved in such protests. While the whereabouts of most of those detained has now become clear, the Ministry of Internal Affairs have claimed that they are not detaining Dmitrii Bulatov. Dmitrii Bulatov's car is also missing. There are fears that he may be subjected to torture and other ill-treatment.

Since Sunday 19 January, there have been five reported deaths of protestors linked with the Euromaydan demonstrations, although the authorities have confirmed only two deaths by shooting. There have been a number of instances of police detaining protestors without informing their families. Some Euromaydan activists alleged that they were abducted, beaten and driven to forests and left there by unknown men; one activist was certain they were police officers. On 22 January, another Euromaydan protestor, Yury Verbytsky was found dead in a forest outside of Kyiv. Reportedly his ribs were broken and there were traces of duct tape round his head. He and a well-known journalist and activist, Igor Lutsenko, had been abducted by unidentified men on 21 January when they sought medical treatment in a local hospital.

Please write immediately in Ukrainian, Russian, English or your own language:

- ✓ Urging the authorities to investigate the whereabouts of Dmitrii Bulatov and to ensure his safety;
- ✓ Calling on the authorities to ensure that, if in custody, Dmitrii Bulatov's family has immediate access to him, and he is able to see a defence lawyer;
- ✓ Reminding the authorities of their obligations under international human rights law, including the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights and the Convention against Torture.

PLEASE SEND APPEALS BEFORE 5 MARCH 2014 TO:

Prosecutor General

Viktor Pavlovich Pshonka
Riznitska Str.13/15
01601 Kyiv
Ukraine
Tel: +380 44 200 7574
Fax: + 380 44 280 2603
Email: interel@gp.gov.ua

Salutation: Dear Prosecutor General

Minister of Internal Affairs

Vitaliy Zakharchenko
Akademika Bogomoltsa Str. 10
01024 Kyiv
Ukraine
Tel: + 380 44 256 03 33
Fax: +380 44 253 97 96
Email: mvsinfo@mvsinfo.gov.ua

Salutation: Dear Minister

And copies to:

Valeria Lutkovska
Chair of the Ukrainian Parliament
Commission for Human Rights
Institutska Str. 21/8
01008 Kyiv
Ukraine
Tel: +380 44 253 2091
Fax: +380 44 226 3427
Email: lutkovska@ombudsman.gov.ua
hotline@ombudsman.gov.ua

Also send copies to diplomatic representatives accredited to your country. Please insert local diplomatic addresses below:

Name Address 1 Address 2 Address 3 Fax Fax number Email Email address Salutation Salutation Please check with your section office if sending appeals after the above date.

**AMNESTY
INTERNATIONAL**



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ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

The current security situation in Ukraine is of grave concern to Amnesty International, which has been documenting cases of torture and other ill-treatment, and use of indiscriminate and abusive force by police with impunity in Ukraine.

Following the decision by the Ukrainian government in November 2013 not to sign an agreement with the European Union which would have given Ukraine stronger trade and political ties with the EU, thousands of Ukrainians took to the streets and their protests have been ongoing and focused mainly in the centre of Kyiv.

The overwhelmingly peaceful demonstrations in Kyiv turned violent on Sunday night after the government rushed through a series of new laws criminalizing protests and severely limiting freedom of assembly, association and expression. The new laws came into effect at midnight on Wednesday, 22 January.

Name: Dmitrii Bulatov

Gender m/f: m

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