

26 January 2022

Written Declaration No

Kazakhstan's human rights violations and "shooting without warning" must be internationally investigated

We condemn the Kazakh government-sponsored disinformation campaign about unidentified "20,000 terrorists" who are allegedly responsible for inciting unrest to justify the Internet and telecommunications blackouts, the massive persecution, torture of activists as Berik Abishov, Yerbol Borlibay and human rights defenders as Raigul Sadyrbayeva, Aliya Isenova.

President Tokayev's order to "shoot without warning" against people among them very much peaceful protesters and citizens, described as international terrorists, violates Kazakhstan's international obligations, and should be revoked immediately. The deployment of troops from the Collective Security Treaty Organisation, a military bloc led by Russia, to Kazakhstan on official request based on wrong informations to assist the Kazakh government against protesters is unacceptable and should be investigated internationally. The 10,000 arbitrarily detained protesters and political prisoners such as Bekizhan Mendygaziev, Yerulan Amirov, Kairat Klyshev, Saltanat Kusmankyzy must be released unconditionally.

Kazakhstan uses extra-judicial methods of persecution abroad and abuses mechanisms of legal cooperation against individuals associated with the opposition movement Democratic Choice of Kazakhstan and its leader Mukhtar Ablyazov: Zamanbek Tleuliyev, Yeldos Nasipbekov, Tatiana Paraskevich, Bota Jardemali.

We stand by the recommendations of the European Parliament's urgent resolution on the human rights situation in Kazakhstan, adopted on 20 January 2022 and call for an international Investigation and reviewing sanctions on high-level Kazakh officials.

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