

APPEAL in connection with the upcoming formal 5+2 negotiations in Vienna

July 11, 2012

On 21 July 2009, **ALEXANDRU URSU**, an officer of the Moldovan Ministry of Internal Affairs (police inspector in the village of Hagimus, Căușeni district) was arrested by the illegitimate militsiya forces in Bender town. Later, an illegitimate court arbitrarily deprived him of freedom, sentencing him to 15 years in prison.

According to his family and lawyers, Alexandru Ursu is now being held in Prison no.1 in Hlinaia, Grigoriopol. He is held in a cell with inmates who suffer from hepatitis, tuberculosis and HIV/SIDA. In January 2012, Alexandru Ursu suffered a stroke, which may reoccur because of the inhuman detention conditions.

Promo-LEX Association¹, which monitors the situation of human rights in the Transnistrian region, expresses its concern for the security and freedom of the police officer “sentenced” by the *de facto* authorities. Art.29 of Law no.416 on Police states that “the police officer is an inviolable person and **enjoys state protection**. His/her personality, honor and dignity are protected by law”.

Promo-LEX Association considers that Alexandru Ursu's detention is a serious problem for the Moldovan authorities, as the residents and citizens living in the eastern region of Moldova continue to remain defenseless against human rights violations.

On 21 July 2012 it will be three years since Ursu Alexandru was sentenced by the illegitimate forces in Tiraspol. Throughout this period, the Moldovan authorities haven't undertaken serious efforts to free the police officer from illegal detention.

Considering the above and in light of the upcoming formal 5+2 negotiations on the Transnistrian settlement in Vienna on 12-13 July 2012, as well as noting the statements of the Moldovan government concerning the intention to discuss this case during the 5+2 meeting in Vienna, we **REQUEST**:

- **the INCLUSION on the Vienna meeting agenda** of discussions on the situation of Alexandru Ursu with a view to securing his immediate and unconditioned release from illegal detention;
- **the active and effective INVOLVEMENT** in defending the rights of the illegally sentenced police officer Alexandru Ursu;
- **the INTENSIFICATION of efforts** to identify a reliable, legal and effective instrument for defending and guaranteeing fundamental human rights and freedoms for the residents and citizens living in the Transnistrian region.

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¹www.promolex.md