БУГАРСКИ КУЛТУРЕН КЛУБ

August 14, 2009

Dear Sir/Madame:

We are contacting you regarding an urgent matter concerning the case of Mrs. Spaska Mitrova, citizen of the Republic of Macedonia and the Republic of Bulgaria. This is an issue that has been a major concern of ours over the course of the last two weeks.

Mrs. Mitrova is sentenced by the Macedonian court to three months in jail and fined to pay 32,000 euros in a trial that has many confusing circumstances.

Mrs. Mitrova is a 24-year old woman with cancer in both breasts and a two year old child suffering from bronchial asthma requiring a 6 months medical treatment with antibiotics. In addition, the child is still breast fed and has been taken away from her by force. The suffering mother, both a Macedonian and Bulgarian, and a EU citizen as well, has been imprisoned since June 29, 2009, without the right to see her child. The arrest itself was carried out by a disproportionately large group of state police. We found all these facts to be particularly disturbing.

As a candidate country for the accession of the European Union, we strongly support the fulfillment of the Copenhagen political criteria which requires stable institutions which guarantee democracy, rule of law and human rights.

It is in this spirit that we appeal to you to do everything in your power to help Mrs. Spaska Mitrova and lead this humanitarian case to an end as soon as possible. We also appeal for an assessment by the European Union's representatives of the functioning of the Macedonian judiciary in this particular case.

Yours sincerely,

Lazar Mladenov
President of the Bulgarian Cultural Club - Skopje

Сдружение на граѓани Бугарски Културен Клуб Скопје

Citizens' Association "Bulgarian Cultural Club - Skopje"
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БУГАРСКИ КУЛТУРЕН КЛУБ

Subject:

The case of Mrs. Spaska Mitrova

CC:

The President, Prime Minister and Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Macedonia;

The Presidents, Prime Ministers and Ministers of Foreign Affairs of Albania, Austria, Belgium, Bulgaria, China, Croatia, Czech Republic, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Italy, Netherlands, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Russia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Turkey, United Kingdom, USA through the embassies of the corresponding countries in the Republic of Macedonia;

The President of the European Commission through Mr. Erwan Fouere, EU Special Representative in the Republic of Macedonia;

Members of the European Parliament;

The United Nations President through Ms. Maria Luisa Silva Mejias, Office of the United Nations Resident Coordinator in the Republic of Macedonia;

The Chairman of OSCE through Ambassador Jose Luis Herrero, OSCE Spillover Monitor Mission in the Republic of Macedonia;

The Helsinki Committee in the Republic of Macedonia and the Republic of Bulgaria, The Human Rights Watch;

Media.

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