



№ 147/01-3

“ 16 ” 08 2017

To: Mr. Nursultan Nazarbayev  
President of Kazakhstan

Dear President Nazarbayev,

As the president of ITUC Pan-European Regional Council, with this letter, I would like to express my grave concern regarding the recent erroneous adjudication of the Kazakh court to impose ungrounded penalties on Larisa Kharkova, former chairman of the `Confederation of Independent Trade Unions`. Let me bring your attention to the evident reality that such an uncovered false accusations and staged court-trials seriously damage Kazakhstan's prestige and reputation internationally – and the country that could be considered as an emerging state in the region, currently is perceived as a harbor of lawlessness and white-spot of democratic space.

Policy of suppressing the free trade unions, freedom of association and human rights in Kazakhstan is not just an everyday problem for the country you lead - it is a challenge for the entire democratic world, every single trade union organization as well as their individual members globally and considering the fact that Kazakhstan trade unions are ITUC affiliates, you and your country already have 181 million vigorous critics through 340 organizations within 163 countries. And these numbers are persistently growing!

Mr. President,

As a Georgian and representative of the same region, I am a personal witness how wrong-doing of governmental agencies or indifference of leaders towards violations of fundamental human rights may lead to irreversible processes of eroding democracy and principles that contemporary civilized world is built on. Thus, I urge you to reassess the great harm that illicit deeds of the Kazakh governmental agencies may bring to your country henceforth, employ constitutional levers and demonstrate personal will as the president of the country to seize persecution of trade unions movement, oppression of freedom of association and violation of rights of workers in Kazakhstan guaranteed by the constitution, international standards and universal conventions.

Sincerely,

Irakli Pertiashvili  
President of Pan-European Regional Council  
President of GTUC

Republic of Kazakhstan  
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Government House