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Statement by the International Partnership for Human Rights (Brussels), the Bulgarian Helsinki Committee (Sofia), Civil Rights Defenders (Stockholm), the Moscow Helsinki Group (Moscow), the Netherlands Helsinki Committee (The Hague), the Norwegian Helsinki Committee (Oslo) and the Polish Helsinki Foundation for Human Rights (Warsaw)

HUMAN RIGHTS DEFENDERS IN CENTRAL ASIA

Dealing with some of the most serious human rights problems in the OSCE region, human rights defenders in Central Asia carry out a crucial function in exposing violations and holding leaders accountable. However, their engagement comes with a price. Because of their courageous efforts to stand up to injustice and abuse, human rights defenders working in these countries are intimidated and threatened, publicly condemned, sued for defamation, prosecuted on politically motivated charges, imprisoned after unfair trials, tortured and ill-treated, and forced to flee their countries. Their relatives and acquaintances are also singled out for harassment.

We, the organizations joining together in making this statement, express our solidarity and support for our Central Asian colleagues who continue their human rights activities with dedication and commitment despite the many dangers they face. It is extremely important that these human rights defenders enjoy wholehearted support of the international community in their campaigns for universal human rights standards. As respect for human rights is one of the guiding principles of the OSCE, and the participating States have agreed to effectively ensure the rights of individuals and groups to contribute to the promotion and protection of human rights,¹ the OSCE has a particular role to play in this regard. This is especially true at this time when a Central Asian government is holding the chairmanship of the organization.

In view of this, we call on the OSCE participating States to deal with the situation of human rights defenders as a priority issue at the upcoming OSCE Summit in Astana and to use this summit as an opportunity to agree on concrete measures to enhance the protection of human rights defenders at risk in the region.

**Overview of challenges faced by
human rights defenders in the Central Asian countries**

Human rights defenders who investigate human rights violations perpetrated in connection with the recent inter-ethnic violence in southern **Kyrgyzstan** are working in a climate of insecurity and lack of protection. A number of cases of intimidation, public denouncement and violent attacks targeting human rights defenders have been reported from this region in the recent period. Because of their efforts to document and report on what happened during the inter-ethnic violence, human rights activists have been accused of spreading false information and promoting mass disturbances. Human rights defenders of Uzbek ethnicity appear to be at particular risk of harassment,² while ethnic Kyrgyz defenders have been accused of being “traitors of the Kyrgyz people” for defending the rights of ethnic Uzbeks.

- *On 15 September 2010, a court in the Jalal-Abad region in southern Kyrgyzstan convicted Azimzhan Askarov, the director of the human rights organization “Vozdukh” (“Air”), for his alleged participation in events where one police officer was killed and others injured. He was given a lifetime prison sentence. There are serious grounds to believe that the charges against Askarov were politically motivated and that he was punished for his human rights work. Prior to being arrested he was actively engaged in efforts to document looting, arson and violent attacks taking place in his home settlement. Among others, he filmed cases when police failed to intervene to stop violent acts. Previously he had been working for several years to monitor and report on prison conditions and police treatment of detainees.³*

There are also serious concerns about the fairness of the trial against Askarov and seven other individuals convicted together with him. The defense lawyers were reportedly denied the opportunity to submit petitions or question witnesses. At one hearing, Askarov and several others showed visible signs of having been beaten. Moreover, the hearings were conducted in an openly hateful atmosphere, where relatives of the dead policeman shouted anti-Uzbek slurs and demands for execution, and intimidated and attacked lawyers and family members of the defendants without any adequate response from the side of court officials or police present.⁴

- *Tolekan Ismailova, the head of the NGO “Citizens against Corruption”, left Kyrgyzstan at the beginning of July 2010 because of imminent threats against her person related to her activities to document and report on human rights violations in the southern part of the country. Only days before, she had narrowly escaped what she believed was an attempt to cause the car she was traveling in to crash. She had also been interrogated by the regional prosecutor of Osh with regard to her human rights work and faced public denouncement and threats for helping ethnic Uzbek victims of human rights violations.⁵*

Despite the concerns expressed by major international actors,⁶ and the special responsibility that the OSCE chairmanship entails with respect to human dimension commitments, the government of **Kazakhstan** continues to hold in prison one of the country’s most well-known human rights defenders. Yevgeni Zhovtis, who is the founding director of the Kazakhstan International Bureau for

Human Rights and Rule of Law (KIBHR), was imprisoned a year ago following a trial marred by irregularities. The circumstances of the case, as described below, as well as the fact that Zhovtis and his KIBHR colleagues have faced harassment repeatedly in the past⁷, raise strong suspicion that the authorities exploited a tragic incident in an attempt to silence a leading human rights critic.

- *In September 2009, Zhovtis was sentenced to four years in prison for killing a pedestrian in a car accident. While Zhovtis did not deny that he hit and fatally injured the pedestrian with his car, he emphasized that he did not violate any traffic laws and that there was nothing he could have done to prevent the accident. However, the investigation and court proceedings were characterized by serious procedural violations that denied Zhovtis the right to mount an effective defense on these grounds.*

While Zhovtis was initially treated as a witness in the case, his status was subsequently changed to that of a suspect without him being promptly informed about this change. Moreover, during the trial, the judge did not allow any of the expert witnesses appointed by the defense to testify in court and did not take into consideration any of the written evidence it put forward, including a statement from the victim's relatives that Zhovtis had apologized and provided them compensation (although, under Kazakh law, such a settlement should have resulted in termination of the proceedings⁸). The verdict was announced only 25 minutes after the two-day long trial ended, suggesting that it had been prepared in advance.⁹ The sentence was upheld on appeal in October 2009, while the Supreme Court has refused to review the case.

Zhovtis is serving his sentence in a prison colony in Ust-Kamenogorsk in North-East Kazakhstan, which is located 1000 km away from his home in Almaty. Unlike other detainees in this colony, he has only been assigned jobs within the detention facility that do not correspond to his qualifications.¹⁰

In spite of some minor reforms initiated by the current government of **Turkmenistan**, the political environment of this country remains essentially repressive and opportunities for civic engagement are extremely limited. Independent civil society groups cannot operate openly and individuals who are courageous enough to participate in human rights related activities are under surveillance by national security services and risk being subjected to intimidation, interrogation, prohibition on traveling abroad and other punitive measures. At least two individuals are currently in prison for their legitimate human rights activities. Relatives and acquaintances of civil society activists who live in exile in other countries have also been targeted by national security services.

- *Annakurban Amanklychev and Sapardurdy Khadzhiiev, both of whom were associated with the Bulgaria-based Turkmenistan Helsinki Foundation, were sentenced to seven years in prison on apparently fabricated charges of illegal possession of firearms in an August 2006 trial that fell seriously short of international standards.¹¹ They are reportedly serving their sentences in the Turkmenbashi high-security prison, which is located in a remote desert characterized by extreme climate conditions. The inmates in this prison are forced to do demanding agricultural work, and are held in filthy and overcrowded cells, fed poorly and allowed only minimal contact with the outside world.¹²*

Another human rights activist, Ogulsapar Muradova, who was convicted together with the two men, died in detention shortly after the 2006 trial. While the circumstances in which she died were suspicious, and her family reported seeing signs of torture on her body, the Turkmen authorities have failed to undertake a proper investigation into her death.¹³

- In June 2010, national security officials visited several schools in the city of Dashovuz to make inquiries about the family of Farid Tukhbatullin, a well-known Turkmen human rights defender who used to live in this city before fleeing to Austria in 2003. The officials specifically wanted to find out details about Tukhbatullin's two sons, who also live as refugees in Austria and help him in his efforts to publicize human rights problems in Turkmenistan. The day before, Tukhbatullin had delivered a critically worded presentation about the current situation in Turkmenistan at an event in Washington DC.¹⁴ The incident gave rise to concern that family, friends and even distant acquaintances of Tukhbatullin may be subjected to further intimidation and harassment.

An ecological activist who is an old colleague of Tukhbatullin, Andrey Zatoka, was expelled from Turkmenistan together with his wife in November 2009. Shortly before this, Zatoka had been sentenced to five years in prison on fabricated charges related to an apparently staged attack on him at a market place. He was forced to agree to the authorities renouncing his and his wife's Turkmenistani citizenships, and expelling them from the country, in order to have his sentence commuted into a fine. He currently resides in Russia.¹⁵

In **Tajikistan**, it remains of concern that legal provisions on libel and defamation are implemented so as to restrict the exercise of the right to freedom of expression on issues such as corruption and human rights violations. Criminal Code articles prohibiting defamation and insult continue to be used to prosecute journalists who publish articles critical of public authorities, thus suppressing public discussion. It is also of concern that civil lawsuits on defamation often involve excessively high demands for damages and appear to be used by public officials as a means to prevent legitimate criticism. Several such cases were initiated shortly before the parliamentary elections on 28 February 2010.

- In February 2010, a Dushanbe district court began hearing a suit brought by three high-ranking judges against a lawyer, Solidzhon Dzhuraev, and three independent newspapers, Asia Plus, Ozodagon and Farazhji, for allegedly spreading defamatory information about their persons. The suit related to statements made by Dzhuraev regarding arbitrary and unfair judicial proceedings in several cases he had worked on, as well as articles published by the three newspapers highlighting his concerns. The judges have demanded a total of more than 5 million somoni (close to 1 million euro) in damages.¹⁶

In mid-May 2010, the trial was postponed pending the outcome of a philological expert study commissioned by the judge,¹⁷ and it remains unclear when it will continue.¹⁸ The plaintiff has complained about procedural violations in the course of the hearing.¹⁹

In his work as a lawyer, Dzhuraev has repeatedly spoken out about the fabrication of criminal cases, violations of the rights of defendants and the use of torture. A few years ago

Dzhuraev lost a libel suit filed by a judge who was unhappy with the lawyer's criticism of a criminal case verdict handed down by him.²⁰

The authorities of **Uzbekistan** continue to stifle the activities of independent human rights defenders. Only two human rights organizations have been officially registered, and one of them – Ezgulik (“Goodness”) – recently reported being subjected to increasing pressure.²¹ In the last few years, numerous human rights defenders have left the country because of persecution, and more than a dozen defenders are currently in prison after being convicted on trumped-up charges in trials conducted in blatant violation of fair trial standards and with complete disregard of facts.²² There are also cases where civil defamation and other cases appear to have been initiated with a view to putting pressure on human rights activists.²³

➤ *In November 2009, Ganikhon Mamatkhanov, a human rights defender in the Ferghana region working to promote the rights of farmers, was sentenced to five years in prison²⁴ on charges of bribery and fraud. He was arrested in an apparent set-up, where money was planted on him. Mamatkhanov had investigated and criticized the negative consequences of an ongoing land reform,²⁵ and only a few days before his arrest, he had sent an open letter to Uzbek President Karimov on this issue. He had also previously been threatened in relation to his human rights work.²⁶ Mamatkhanov's health has reportedly deteriorated during his time in prison, and his family members have not been allowed to bring him all the medicine he needs for his heart problems and other health conditions.²⁷*

➤ *A libel case against Surat Ikramov, head of the Initiative Group of Independent Human Rights Defenders of Uzbekistan (IGIHRDU), is currently under way in a Tashkent court. It relates to a statement that the IGIHRDU issued about the death in late 2007 of famous Uzbek singer Dilnura Kadyrjanova. The statement conveyed allegations of the singer's family that her death was presented as a suicide in a police cover-up to protect a high-ranking police official and brother of the Uzbek interior minister, who was her lover.*

The former nanny of Kadyrjanova's two daughters, who are now in her care, and her husband have filed a suit accusing Ikramov and Kadyrjanova's mother of spreading information damaging their honor and dignity, demanding 10 million and 5 million soms (about 5.000 and 2.500 euro) in damages, respectively, as well as the opening of a criminal case on grounds of slander and insult.²⁸

Ikramov believes that third parties are behind the unfounded suit and are attempting to use it as a means to distract attention from the true circumstances of the singer's death and, at the same time, punish him for his human rights work.²⁹ During the hearing of the case, he has been accused of conducting “illegal human rights activities”.³⁰

Recommendations to the OSCE participating States

To all the OSCE Participating States:

- Deal with the situation of human rights defenders as a priority issue at the OSCE Summit scheduled to take place in Astana on 1-2 December 2010, and use the summit as an opportunity to:

Reconfirm their commitment to respect the rights of individuals and non-governmental groups who are involved in peaceful and legitimate activities to promote respect for human rights, and recognize that they are accountable to each other for their treatment of human rights defenders, as this is a matter of direct and legitimate concern to all participating States³¹;

Agree on concrete measures to improve and strengthen the protection of human rights defenders in the OSCE region. Such measures could include:

- *endorsing the EU Guidelines on Human Rights Defenders and undertaking to apply them, whenever appropriate, in individual and joint actions;*
- *creating a special OSCE representative to address and visibly raise issues relating to the situation of human rights defenders (in close cooperation with the ODIHR focal point on human rights defenders and other relevant international mechanisms);*
- *developing OSCE capacity for rapid response in cases when human rights defenders are urgently in need of assistance; and*
- *stepping up cooperation among the participating States for the purpose of promoting independence of judges, prosecutors and law enforcement authorities across the OSCE region;*

Agree to ensure that visa regulations do not prevent human rights defenders from conducting fact-finding missions, attending meetings and engaging in other activities relevant to their human rights work in other OSCE participating States.

To the authorities of Kyrgyzstan:

- Ensure that the charges against Azimzhan Askarov and his co-defendants are reviewed in a new process conducted in full accordance with international standards and requirements for a fair trial at a place (outside southern Kyrgyzstan) where the safety of the defendants, their lawyers and relatives can be protected;
- Release Askarov pending an outcome of this review;
- Undertake a thorough and independent investigation into the allegations of torture against Askarov;
- Take effective measures to ensure the safety and protection of human rights defenders who are working to investigate and document abuses related to the recent violence in southern Kyrgyzstan, as well as their family members.

To the authorities of Kazakhstan:

- Undertake a new review of the case of Yevgeni Zhovtis, with due account of all facts in the case, in a process safeguarding all his rights as a defendant;
- Release Zhovtis from serving his current sentence pending the outcome of such a review;
- As long as Zhovtis remains in prison, ensure that he is treated fairly and equally with other prisoners and that he can exercise all his rights as a prisoner.

To the authorities of Turkmenistan:

- Ensure that civil society activists can conduct human rights activities without intimidation, obstruction or interference by authorities, and put an end to any form of intimidation or harassment targeting family members or acquaintances of exiled civil society activists;
- Release Annakurban Amanklychev and Sapardurdy Khadzhiev from prison and, as long as they remain imprisoned, ensure that their treatment is humane and consistent with Turkmenistan's international obligations;
- Undertake a thorough and independent investigation into the circumstances of death of Ogulsapar Muradova and make public the results.

To the authorities of Tajikistan:

- Repeal the Criminal Code articles criminalizing defamation and insult;
- Refrain from using defamation lawsuits brought under the Civil Code to harass journalists, human rights defenders and others who express legitimate criticism;
- Make sure that damages imposed in civil defamation cases are reasonable and proportionate to the resources of those concerned.

To the authorities of Uzbekistan:

- Take effective measures to ensure that human rights defenders can carry out their activities without intimidation, harassment or undue interference by national authorities;
- Immediately and unconditionally release Ganikhon Mamatkhanov and other human rights defenders imprisoned on politically motivated charges;
- Develop strategies to prevent that defamation suits are used to harass and punish human rights defenders for exercising their internationally protected right to freedom of expression.

¹ See, in particular, point 10 of the document from the 1990 Copenhagen Meeting of the Conference of the Human Dimension of the CSCE, at http://www.osce.org/documents/odhr/2006/06/19392_en.pdf

² Statement by initiative group of human rights defenders of ethnic Uzbeks in the city of Osh, "В Оше становится опасным быть правозащитником этническим узбекам", 16 August 2010.

³ For more background information on the case, see IPHR and Citizens against Corruption (CAC), "Appeal to the International Community: Call for a New, Fair Review of the Case of Human Rights Defender Sentenced to Life in Kyrgyzstan," 16 September 2010, at <http://www.iphronline.org/news.html?32>; and IPHR and CAC, "Appeal to the EU: Help Ensure that Kyrgyz Human Rights Defender is Given Fair, Impartial and Safe Trial," 31 August 2010, <http://www.iphronline.org/news.html?30>

⁴ Frontline, "Update - Unfair trial and fear of torture of human rights defender Mr Azimjan Askarov," 13 September 2010, at <http://www.frontlinedefenders.org/node/13314>; Amnesty International, "Fair trial urged for ethnic Uzbeks accused of police killing in Kyrgyzstan," 7 September 2010, at <http://www.amnesty.org/en/news-and-updates/fair-trial-urged-ethnic-uzbeks-accused-police-killing-kyrgyzstan-2010-09-07>

⁵ See IPHR, "Open Letter to the Belgian EU Presidency: Action Needed to Ensure Protection of Endangered Kyrgyz Human Rights Defenders," 7 June 2010, at <http://iphronline.org/news.html?27>. For more background information about pressure faced by Tolekan Ismailova, see also Civil Rights Defenders, "Harder times for human rights defenders in Kyrgyzstan" 30 March 2010, at <http://www.civilrightsdefenders.org/en/events/7746/>

⁶ See, for example, "EU Statement in the OSCE on the case against human rights defender Evgeniy Zhovtis," 18 December 2009, at

http://www.se2009.eu/en/meetings_news/2009/12/18/eu_statement_in_the_osce_on_the_case_against_human_rights_defender_evgeniy_zhovtis; U.S. Embassy Statement On The Conviction Of Yevgeniy Zhovtis, 4 September 2009, at <http://kazakhstan.usembassy.gov/st-09-04-09.html>; European Parliament resolution of 17 September 2009 on the case of Yevgeniy Zhovtis in Kazakhstan, at <http://www.europarl.europa.eu/sides/getDoc.do?pubRef=-//EP//TEXT+TA+P7-TA-2009-0023+0+DOC+XML+V0//EN>; "Just conclusion urgently needed in Zhovtis case, OSCE PA's Mecacci reports," 21 May 2010, at http://www.oscepa.org/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=861:just-conclusion-urgently-needed-in-zhovtis-case-osce-pas-mecacci-reports&catid=48:Press%20Releases&Itemid=73

⁷ For a list of examples, see HIVOS, the Netherlands Helsinki Committee and IPHR, "Letter to the Netherlands minister of foreign affairs on the conviction of human rights defender Yevgeniy Zhovtis in Kazakhstan," 14.09.2009, <http://iphronline.org/news.html?a100=18>

⁸ In accordance with article 67 of the Criminal Code of Kazakhstan.

⁹ IPHR, "Open letter regarding Kazakhstani Supreme Court hearing on the admissibility of the case of human rights defender Yevgeniy Zhovtis," 24 April 2010, at <http://iphronline.org/news.html?20>

¹⁰ *Report to the President of the OSCE Parliamentary Assembly on Visit to Yevgeniy Zhovtis by Matteo Mecacci, Rapporteur of the OSCE Parliamentary Assembly Committee on Human Rights, Democracy and Humanitarian Questions*, May 2010, at http://www.oscepa.org/images/stories/Organization/5.General%20Committees/GC-3rd-Committee/05-2010_Mecacci_report_to_JS.pdf

¹¹ For more details about the case, see for example Amnesty International, "Turkmenistan: Further Information on Arbitrary Detention/Fear of Torture", 30 August 2006, at EUR 61/012/2006 <http://www.amnesty.org/en/library/info/EUR61/012/2006/en>

¹² Reporters without Borders, "Details of jail where two journalists have been held for past two and a half years," 18 February 2009, at <http://en.rsf.org/turkmenistan-details-of-jail-where-two-18-02-2009,30336.html>

¹³ International Helsinki Federation, "Imprisoned Turkmen Journalist and Human Rights Defender Dies in Custody," 15 September 2006, available at http://www.hrea.org/lists2/display.php?language_id=1&id=2821

¹⁴ IPHR, the Belarusian Helsinki Committee, the Bulgarian Helsinki Committee, the Helsinki Committee for Human Rights in Serbia, Kazakhstan International Bureau for Human Rights and Rule of Law, the Moscow Helsinki Group, the Netherlands Helsinki Committee and the Norwegian Helsinki Committee, "Appeal to the EU: Use human rights dialogue with Turkmenistan as opportunity to insist on end to intimidation and harassment of civil society," 17 June 2010, at http://app.moogo.com/files/iphhr.moogo.com/Press_release_turkmenistan_appeal_17_june_2010.pdf

¹⁵ For more details of this case, see the chapter on Turkmenistan in *Amnesty International Report 2010*, at http://thereport.amnesty.org/en/regions/europe-central-asia#europe_countries_en; Turkmen Initiative for Human Rights, "Определение суда в отношении А.Затоки исполнено в кратчайший срок," 8 November 2009, at <http://www.chrono-tm.org/?id=2253>; Letter by Andrey Zatoka addressed to the Ambassador of the Russian Federation in Turkmenistan ("Я готов отказаться от туркменского гражданства и справедливости"), 22 October 2010, at <http://www.chrono-tm.org/?id=2218>

¹⁶ "Таджикистан: В Душанбе трое судей подали иск о защите чести против независимых газет", 2 February 2010, at <http://www.ferghana.ru/news.php?id=13933&mode=snews>; "Судьи привлекают к ответственности адвоката, оценившего судебную систему, и журналистов", 8 February 2010, at <http://www.vof.kg/tj/news/?news=2833>; The Committee to Protect Journalists, "Tajik judges seek millions from weeklies in civil libel case," 3 February 2010, at <http://cpj.org/2010/02/tajik-judges-seek-millions-from-weeklies-in-civil.php#more>

¹⁷ National Association of Independent Mass-media in Tajikistan (Nansmit), "По делу трех независимых газет Таджикистана суд назначил филологическую экспертизу", 22 May 2010, at <http://nansmit.tj/news/?id=1535>

¹⁸ Information from Nansmit to IPHR, 14 September 2010.

¹⁹ "Три газеты предъявили претензии к Верховному суду Таджикистана", 20 April 2010, at <http://www.centrasia.ru/newsA.php?st=1271707740>

²⁰ "Судьи привлекают к ответственности адвоката, оценившего судебную систему, и журналистов", 8 February 2010, at <http://www.vof.kg/tj/news/?news=2833>

²¹ Among others, the organization's hard drive, which contained its archives, was stolen during a break-in to its office in May 2010. "Правозащитная организация «Эзгулик» заявляет об усиливающемся давлении со стороны государства," 25 August 2010, at <http://www.ferghana.ru/news.php?id=15420>

²² For a list of imprisoned human rights defenders, see Human Rights Watch, "Uzbekistan's Imprisoned Human Rights Defenders," 3 May 2010, at <http://www.hrw.org/en/news/2010/05/03/uzbekistan-s-imprisoned-human-rights-defenders>

²³ For a discussion of several recent cases, see “Правозащитная организация «Эзгулик» заявляет об усиливающемся давлении со стороны государства,” 25 August 2010, at <http://www.ferghana.ru/news.php?id=15420>

²⁴ The sentence was reduced by six months on appeal.

²⁵ As part of this reform, farmers were pressurized into abandoning lands areas they had leased for long periods of time. For more information about this and other human rights issues relating to farmers in Uzbekistan, see IPHR and the Initiative Group of Independent Human Rights Defenders of Uzbekistan, *Repression and Exploitation of Farmers and Rural Communities in Uzbekistan - A briefing note to the 12th EU-NGO Forum on Human Rights*, July 2010, at <http://www.iphronline.org/news.html?28>

²⁶ The Observatory for the Protection of Human Rights Defenders, “Sentencing of Mr. Ganikhon Mamatkhanov to Five Years in Prison,” 27 November 2009, at <http://www.omct.org/index.php?id=&lang=eng&actualPageNumber=4&articleSet=Appeal&articleId=8933>; Human Rights Watch, “Uzbekistan: Free Human Rights Defender. Growing Persecution of Farmers’ Rights Activists,” 16 November 2009, at <http://www.hrw.org/ru/news/2009/11/15/uzbekistan-free-human-rights-defender>

²⁷ Association of Human Rights in Central Asia, *Forced Labor in Uzbekistan*, February 2010, p. 16, at http://www2.ohchr.org/english/bodies/hrc/docs/ngos/AHRCA_Uzbekistan_98.pdf

²⁸ “Против правозащитника Сурата Икрамова и матери погибшей певицы подан многомиллионный иск”, 3 August 2010, at <http://www.ferghana.ru/article.php?id=6680>; “Uzbek rights activist facing libel trial,” 5 August 2010, at http://www.uznews.net/news_single.php?lng=en&sub=hot&cid=3&nid=14613%3Cbr%20/%3E; “Uzbek Human Rights Activists Face Trials”, 8 August 2010, at <http://www.eurasianet.org/node/61691>

²⁹ Пресс-центр ИГНПУ, “Преследование и шантаж в отношении правозащитника С. Икрамова и пострадавшей О. Юсуповой...”, 1 August 2010, available at <http://yangidunyo.com/?p=13720>

³⁰ “Uzbek Human Rights Activists Face Trials”, 8 August 2010, at <http://www.eurasianet.org/node/61691>

³¹ See the preamble of the Document of the 1991 Moscow Meeting of the Conference on the Human Dimension of the CSCE, at http://www.osce.org/documents/odihr/2006/06/19392_en.pdf.