

## OSCE Human Dimension Implementation Conference

Warsaw, 10-21 September 2018

**Working sessions 14: Humanitarian issues and other commitments, including combating trafficking in human beings, refugees and displaced persons...**

**Contribution of Eurasian Dialogue**

### **Crisis of Tajik Refugee in Europe**

HDIM.NGO/0420/18/EN

### **Following Opposition Crackdown**

19 September 2018

Ladies and Gentlemen!

I would like to draw your attention to a very important issue, which has faced European Union's countries. This issue is "Crisis of Tajik Refugee in Europe after the 2015 crackdown on peaceful opposition in Tajikistan".

In September 2015, the Tajik government banned the main opposition party, the Islamic Renaissance Party, arrested more than 200 political activists, confiscated their property, etc. A move led to a crisis known as the worst human rights record after civil war, which is condemned by United Nation, OSCE, EU, USA and many other countries and human rights organization. Tajikistan's human rights record continues to deteriorate amid an ongoing crackdown on freedom of expression and the political opposition, as well as the targeting of independent lawyers, journalists, and even the family members of opposition activists abroad.

All these repressive actions by the government has led to a new wave of Tajik refugee coming to Europe. According to the website "WorldData.info", more than 7000 Tajik citizens have left Tajikistan from 2015 to 2017 and sought refuge in Europe.

<https://www.worlddata.info/asia/tajikistan/asylum.php>

According to the website "WorldData.info", only 18% of Tajikistan citizens received positive decision, while more than 80% of their applications were rejected. Although, most of them fled the repression and persecution.

I would like to thank European countries, especially Lithuania, Austria, Poland, Germany, etc. for their hospitality and host of Tajik activists. At the same time, we are concerned that more than 80% of activists' application were rejected by Germany as well as by Poland. Some of the activists in European countries face

risk of deportation to Tajikistan, where they will be subject to harassment, torture and ill-treatments.

Here I give some examples. **Habibullo Tashaev**, an IRPT member and his wife and 5 children are nowadays kept in a deportation camp in Biala Podlaska, Poland and they are at risk of deportation. **Mullokhusein Abdulazizov** and **Mukhammadkhold Kuzov**, nephew of Mirzorahim Kuzov, a leading member of the IRPT are kept in a deportation camp in Bialystok, Poland. **Azimov Hikmatullo** and his wife **Oishamoh Kayumova**, brother-in-law and sister of Bobojon Kayumov, spokesman of the IRPT, are at risk of deportation also.

<https://oko.press/polska-deportuje-rodzine-uchodzcow-do-tadzykistanu-groza-im-tam-wiezienie-i-tortury/>

There is another very pitiable case, it is the case of Mr. **Fatkhudin Madzitov**, an IRPT's member and journalist. Since 2016, his wife with his two children have lived in Warsaw, Poland, while Fatkhudin tried several times to enter Poland in order to join his family, but he was refused by Polish border authorities. UNCHR and HFHR in Warsaw have taken his case since three years, but they could not succeed in reunification with his wife and children.

So, I kindly request the European countries, especially, Poland, to prevent extradition of the mentioned Tajik activists and consider their situations, otherwise they will face the risks of torture and harassment.

Thanks for the attention!

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