

17 September 2018

Statement of the Political Movement Group-24

Ladies and gentlemen!

I'm Deputy head and the official representative of the Political movement Group 24 in Sweden Husein Ashurov.

First of all I would like to express the gratitude on behalf of the political movement Group 24 to the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe, that despite of the pressures from Tajikistan's regime on OSCE's office in Dushanbe, has given us the possibility to make reports about the current problems of Tajik people at this international event.

With regards to today's topic of fundamental freedom, I would like to focus on the freedom of expression which is including to today's topic.

I can say, that there is no freedom of expression in Tajikistan. The dictatorial regime continues to severely curtail freedom of information. The Constitution guaranteed citizens the right to freedom of expression, prohibit censorship and state interference with the media.

But in fact, journalists who write and express critical stories are likely to receive threats from the intelligence services, or face libel charges or even arrest. Periodically, there are made changes in the legislation limiting the activities of journalists. For example, article 137 of the Criminal Code prohibits "slandering" the president, and Article 330 prevents journalists from insulting other officials.

And always the regime accuse free thinkers and peaceful protesters to extremist and terrorist group.

Today I want to use this opportunity to deliver my message to the OSCE's member and International community. The delegation which attends this conference from Tajikistan are representing one family and want to cover their crimes. Last week all their speeches mostly were about terrorism and extremism. And they claiming that they fight against terrorism and extremism such as ISIS and Taliban, while one of a deputy from Afghanistan on 4 April 2018 said in the news that Taliban's wounded getting medical care and treatment in Tajikistan.

The daily beast news in 2015 published a statement (Of course the weapons we got freshly from the Afghan-Tajik border played a key role in the fight for Kunduz," said Sub-Commander Qari Omar.)

Please note these serious issues

Thank you for your attention.

Khueyn Ashurov