VOORBEELDBRIEF

Aan: Prosecutor General Igor Viktorovich Krasnov

(plaats, datum)

Dear Prosecutor General;

Vyacheslav Egorov is an environmental activist from the town of Kolomna, Russia. In 2018 he led several peaceful protests against a landfill project he argued was damaging the environment, but he was unjustly charged and put under house arrest in 2019.

He was released six months later, but the charges were not dropped. On 31 January 2019, Vyacheslav was formally charged with Article 212.1 of the Russian Criminal Code, which criminalizes the "repeated violation of regulations of public assemblies". This article curtails freedom of peaceful assembly and contravenes Russia’s human rights obligations.

Despite the fact the Russian Constitutional Court ruled in 2017 that no one can be prosecuted under this article for their participation in peaceful protests, Vyacheslav was prosecuted and sentenced on 14 October 2021 to one year and three months imprisonment and was detained.

I urge you to take all the necessary steps to ensure Vyacheslav Egorov is freed immediately as he is being imprisoned merely for exercising his rights, notably his right to freedom of peaceful assembly.

Thank you for your attention.

Yours sincerely,

(naam, adres en handtekening)

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| **STUUR EEN BRIEF NAAR:**  Igor Viktorovich Krasnov  Ul. Bolshaya Dmitrovka, 15A  Moscow, GSP-3  125993  Russian Federation  E: [center@iscmi.gov.eg](mailto:center@iscmi.gov.eg) | **EN EEN KOPIE NAAR:**  Ambassade van Rusland  Ambassadeur Alexander Tokovinin  De Frélaan 66  1180 Ukkel  E: [amrusbel@skynet.be](mailto:amrusbel@skynet.be) |