

Azerbaijan human rights violations in summer 2014

Letters and Statements

31 July

US Department of State – Statement regarding criminal charges against Leyla Yunus.

"Criminal Charges Against Institute for Peace and Democracy Director Leyla Yunus in Azerbaijan."

Frontline Defenders – Letter to President Ilham Aliyev, Minister of Justice Fikrat Mammadov and Prosecutor General Zakir Garalov.

"Azerbaijan – Detention of human rights defenders Ms Leyla Yunus and Mr Arif Yunus and travel ban ordered against Mr. Rasul Jafarov."

1 August

UK Foreign Office – Statement regarding criminal charges against Leyla Yunus.

"FCO concerned at detention of Azerbaijani peace activist Leyla Yunus."

Christoph Strässer, German Commissioner for Human Rights Policy and Humanitarian Aid – Statement on the indictment of Leyla Yunus.

"Human Rights Commissioner on the indictment of Azerbaijani human rights activist."

3 August

Civic Solidarity – Letter calling for the release of Rasul Jafarov (sign by 27 NGOs).

"Azerbaijan: Freedom to Rasul Jafarov!"

PACE Rapporteur Mailis Reps – Public statement denouncing the arrest of Leyla Yunus.

"PACE rapporteur denounces arrest of Azerbaijani human rights defender Leyla Yunus on treason charges."

4 August

Women Peacemakers Program – Call for action against the arrest of Leyla Yunus.

"Call for Action: Women Peace Activist Azerbaijan Arrested."

Human Rights House – Op-Ed about the recent crackdown on human rights activists.

"Azerbaijan authorities have decided: 'No critical voice shall be heard.'"

5 August

Human Rights Houses – Joint letter to President Ilham Aliyev (signed by 64 NGOs)
“Human Rights House Network Letter to President Aliyev.”

Institute for Reporters’ Freedom and Safety – Condemnation of the arrest of Rasul Jafarov.
"Fear of repression looms as another human rights defender is detained in Azerbaijan."

French Ministry of Foreign Affairs – Statement against the pre-trial detention of Arif and Leyla Yunus.
"Azerbaijan - Arif Yunus placed in pre-trial detention."

6 August

Global Voices – Public appeal for book donations for Rasul Jafarov.
"#BooksForRasul: What Jailed Azerbaijani Human Rights Defenders Need Most? Books."

Štefan Füle, Spokesperson of the EU High Representative/Vice President and European Commissioner for Enlargement and European Neighbourhood Policy – Statement of concern.
"Azerbaijan: EU Concerned by Further Arrests of Human Rights Activists."

7 August

Netherlands Helsinki Committee – Appeal to send letters and postcards of support to Leyla Yunis, Arif Yunus, and Rasul Jafarov.
"Shocking new arrests of human rights defenders in Azerbaijan."

Civic Solidarity – Open letter of support for Leyla Yunus, Arif Yunus, and Rasul Jafarov.
"Send a letter of support to arrested activists in Azerbaijan!"

8 August

FIDH - Worldwide Human Rights Movement – Letter to the Secretary General of the CoE and the Committee of Ministers of the CoE.
"Open Letter to the Secretary General of the Council of Europe and the Council of Europe Committee of Ministers about the increasing repression against civil society and human rights defenders in Azerbaijan."

Thorbjørn Jagland, Secretary General of the CoE – Reaction to arrest of Leyla Yunus.
"Azerbaijan: Thorbjørn Jagland reacts to arrest of Leyla Yunus."

Bård Glad Pedersen, Norwegian Minister of Foreign Affairs – Statement on the detainment of human rights activists while Azerbaijan hold the chairmanship of the CoE.
"Human rights activists detained in Azerbaijan."

9 August

Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Poland – Statement regarding politically motivated arrests in Azerbaijan.

"Politically motivated arrests of Azerbaijani civil society activists."

10 August

International Partnership for Human Rights – Letter to EU embassies.

"Azerbaijan: Letter to EU embassies on current civil society crackdown."

12 August

Human Rights Network – Statement on repression in Azerbaijan.

"Statement from the Human Rights Network on repression in Azerbaijan." Published on *Meydan*.

13 August

Human Rights House – Letter to Secretary General of the Council of Europe.

"Wave of repression in Azerbaijan: joint letter to the Secretary General of the Council of Europe."

Editorial Board Washington Post

"Azerbaijan prosecutes a prominent human rights defender on absurd charges"

14 August

EU, 1013th OSCE Special Permanent Council, 14 August 2014 – Statement on the situation of human rights and civil society in Azerbaijan.

"EU Statement on the situation of human rights and civil society in Azerbaijan."

Human Rights Watch – Call to suspend Azerbaijan from the Extractive Industries Transparency Initiative (EITI).

"Azerbaijan: Transparency Group Should Suspend Membership."

15 August

International Bar Association's Human Rights Institute – Appeal to Council of Europe (CoE) to take action regarding the political prisoners situation in Azerbaijan.

"IBAHR calls on the Council of Europe to take urgent action against Azerbaijan."

Civil Rights Defenders – Letter to President Ilham Aliyev, Minister of Justice Fikrat Mammadov and Prosecutor General Zakir Garalov.

"Open letter on the human rights situation in Azerbaijan."

20 August

Amnesty International – Public appeal to provide medical care to Leyla Yunus.
"Azerbaijan: Provide medical care for prisoner in failing health."

22 August

Cesta Inicativy – Letter to President Ilham Aliyev.
"Call for the release of the unjustly imprisoned in Azerbaijan!"