

**Mr Petro Poroshenko,
President of Ukraine**
Bankova str. 11, Kyiv, Ukraine, 01220

**Mr Pavlo Petrenko,
Minister of Justice of Ukraine**
13, Horodetskoho str., Kyiv, Ukraine 01001

**Mr Yarema Vitaliy Hryhorovych,
Office of General Prosecutor of Ukraine**
Riznytska str. 13/15, Kyiv, Ukraine 01011

**Mr Arsen Avakov,
Minister of Internal Affairs of Ukraine**
10 Bohomoltsa str., Kyiv, Ukraine, 01601

Rome, 1 December 2014

Dear Mr President, Ministers, General Prosecutor,

I am addressing you as a member of the Italian senate. I would like to express my deep concern over the information received from international human rights NGOs, concerning the case of Mr Mukhtar Ablyazov, Kazakh businessman and political oppositionist.

I have been following closely the case of Mr Ablyazov, given the direct Italian involvement in the shocking three-day expulsion, *de facto* deportation, of his wife, Alma Shalabayeva from Italy to Kazakhstan last year. In fact, the Italian authorities subsequently recognised the political background of the case, also given to the activity of Mrs Shalabayeva's husband, and made all diplomatic efforts to ensure that she could return to Italy along with her daughter, where she now resides holding political asylum.

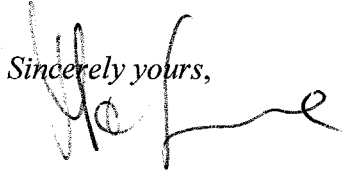
As transpires from information I have received over the last months from international organisations, including information published by Ukrainian media, a portal trust.ua, as well as various statements made by the biggest international NGOs, such as Amnesty International, Human Rights Watch and others, Mr Ablyazov, as a critic of the Kazakh president Mr Nursultan Nazarbayev, has been a victim of the politically motivated misuse of the INTERPOL, as well as national extradition requests issued by the Ukrainian and Russian authorities. He was first detained in France and now faces possible extradition to Ukraine or Russia. He seems to have been a victim of a hostile cooperation between the authorities of Kazakhstan and the investigative bodies in Ukraine and Russia.

Taking into account all of these facts, as well as threats to which Mr Ablyazov may be subject if it comes to the extradition. I appeal to you to withdraw the extradition request against Mr Ablyazov and to acknowledge the political context of his case.

I strongly believe that the Ukrainian authorities will note, just as the Italian did, the political context of the case, as well as the risks involved in pursuing Mr Ablyaziov's extradition, and will retract from being involved in activities that might bring about the suffering or even torture of an individual that is being persecuted for expressing opposing political views to the ruling regime. The freedom of speech, as well as the liberty to criticise the politics of the party in power are part of the fundamental rights that democratic countries should respect.

I believe Ukraine will reconfirm its pro-democratic direction by also refusing to be part of the politically motivated persecution, which goes as far as to misuse the international police body, INTERPOL.

Sincerely yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'M. G. Fine', written in a cursive style.