

Thompson Rivers University Students' Union

805 TRU Way, Kamloops BC, V2C 0C8



Valeriy Georgievich Petrov
Chief Military Prosecutor
Pereulok Holzunova, 14 Moscow, 119021, Russian Federation

July 15, 2020

Unjust Convictions Of Crimeans Must Be Reviewed

Dear Chief Military Prosecutor,

On behalf of the Thompson Rivers University Students' Union, we call on you to immediately review the cases against human rights defender **Emir-Usein Kuku** and his co-defendants **Muslim Aliev, Vadim Siruk, Enver Bekirov, Arsen Dzehparov** and **Refat Alimov**. Due to the nature of their activism, we believe that these arrests and convictions were politically motivated.

We are deeply concerned by reports from Amnesty International about the conviction of terrorism charges of these individuals, despite the complete lack of credible evidence. The transfer of Emir-Usein Kuku and his co-defenders from the Crimean Peninsula to Russia for the purpose of a trial violates International Human Rights Law and the right to a fair trial. Although these Crimean residents have not committed any crimes, they have spent more than four years in prison.

We believe that you have an obligation to investigate the cases of these people and to provide an unconditional and immediate end to their imprisonment. Furthermore, all six defendants should have this matter cleared of their criminal records and their criminal prosecution should stop right away.

Thank you for your attention to this urgent matter.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "N Lane".

Nathan Lane
Executive Director
TRU Students' Union

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Mackenzie Francoeur".

Mackenzie Francoeur
Vice President Equity
TRU Students' Union

cc. Ambassador Alexander Darchiev