Letter to Belarusian Judges

Dear < judge name >

We are writing on behalf of our organisations, all of which are committed to promoting and defending the universal human rights that we all hold so dearly.

We are sure that you are aware that the Republic of Belarus is a signatory to the UN's "Convention against Torture and Other Cruel Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment" and the "International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights". As a Belarusian Judge you solemnly swore that, "before the people of the Republic of Belarus to honestly and conscientiously fulfill my duties, to administer justice, obeying only the Constitution of the Republic of Belarus, to be impartial and fair, as the duty of a judge commands me."

We are, therefore, saddened to see that, since 2020 in particular, these principles and standards have not been upheld in Belarus. We are writing to you, and all other judges in Belarus who are involved in trials against your fellow Belarusians. We want to remind you that the world is aware of the abuses of justice and freedom and human rights that you participate in. We are sure that you are aware that organisations ranging from the Nobel Committee to the United Nations have commented on the work of you and your peers.

You are in a position of authority and responsibility so we, all of the undersigned, ask that you exercise that authority and responsibility according to the principles of your profession.

It is not too late for you, in your coming days and weeks in court, to honour the pledge you made and to uphold the international commitments that Belarus has made to human rights. It is not too late for you to uphold the pledge that you made to the Belarusian people. It is not too late for you to treat your fellow Belarusians in the same way that you would wish to be treated in a court of law: with impartiality, with transparency, with respect for due process and procedure, with honesty and with justice.

Yours sincerely,

Libereco
LIDEIECO
Partnership for Human Rights

Libereco Germany

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Либереко Германия

Марко Файбер

(Исполнительный директор)

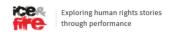


Libereco Switzerland

Lars Bünger (President)

Либереко Швейцария

Ларс Бюнгер (президент)



Ice and Fire Theatre

Christine Bacon

Театр Лед и Огонь

Кристин Бейкон



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Gruppe für eine Schweiz ohne Armee Группа за Швейцарию без Армии

Anja Gada (Political Secretary) Аня Гада (Политический Секретарь)