\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

President of Azerbaijan

Ilham Aliyev

Office of the President of Azerbaijan

19 Istiqlaliyyat Street

Baku AZ1066

Azerbaijan

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Dear President,

**I am writing to demand that Gubad Ibadoghlu, a prominent academic and political activist arrested on trumped-up charges is released from detention immediately and unconditionally and is allowed to travel abroad to access the urgent health care he needs.**

Gubad Ibadoughlu has several health conditions, including an aortic aneurysm – a serious heart condition that continues to deteriorate while he remains under house arrest, causing him increased chest pain and shortness of breath. His family says that recent medical tests show a deterioration of his heart conditions, posing imminent risk to his life that requires urgent treatment or surgery. His family also report that they are unable to find a hospital in Azerbaijan that provides the surgery he requires.

Gubad Ibadoughlu has been detained since 23 July 2023 in an apparent retaliation for his anti-corruption work, and criticism of the Azerbaijani authorities. On 22 April 2024, he was transferred from the detention centre to house arrest. He continues to face the politically motivated charges against him, and a travel ban, unable to leave the country or to be reunited with his family, all of whom are currently living in exile.

I **urge you to immediately release Gubad Ibadoughlu and ensure that his travel ban is lifted without delay to allow him to access the health care he needs abroad. I also urge you to ensure that all trumped-up charges against him are dropped and to end the misuse of the criminal justice system in Azerbaijan to target government critics.**

Yours sincerely,

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**Copie**

Botschaft der Republik Aserbaidschan, Kramburgstrasse 10, 3006 Bern

Fax: 031 350 50 41 / E-Mail: bern@mission.mfa.gov.az