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Head of the Government of Republic of Serbia
Mr Miloš Vučević

Beograd, Nemanjina 11

Serbia

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Dear Prime Minister,

**I am writing to express my deep concern over the ongoing unlawful and arbitrary detention in Serbia of prominent political activist from Türkiye, Ecevit Piroğlu**. I am particularly concerned that he has not been receiving adequate medical care since he started a hunger strike on 12 February and that his condition has been severely deteriorating.

Ecevit Piroğlu was first detained in June 2021 under an extradition request from Turkish authorities. The extradition proceedings were eventually halted in May 2023 when the Appellate Court in Belgrade ruled that he may not be returned to Türkiye. Despite the rejection of Türkiye’s extradition request, Ecevit Piroglu has been kept in an immigration detention centre in Padinska Skela based on a decision from the Ministry of Interior. There are well-founded fears that he is still at risk of deportation to Türkiye or that his detention could continue indefinitely.

**I call on Serbia’s government to ensure the immediate release of Ecevit Piroğlu from the immigration detention centre as his detention is unlawful and arbitrary and to refrain from any attempt to deport him to Türkiye or a third country which could return him to Türkiye where he faces a real risk of serious human rights abuses. In the meantime, I urge the authorities to grant him access to adequate healthcare at a facility of his family’s choice, where he can receive treatment from qualified medical professionals in compliance with medical ethics, including the principles of confidentiality, autonomy, and informed consent.**

Yours sincerely,

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**Copie**

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