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Hanko Andrey Viktorovich

Prosecutor of the Prosecutor's Office for the Irkutsk region

Volodarskogo st., 5

Irkutsk

664011

Russian Federation

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Dear Mr. Hanko,

**I am deeply concerned by the news that Natalya Filonova has been arbitrarily placed in strict conditions of detention.** Natalia is serving her sentence in the IK-11 penal colony in Irkutsk region. The decision to transfer her to strict conditions was made by the administration of this penal colony.

Natalya Filonova, a 62-year-old civic activist and journalist, was convicted of allegedly «using violence against representatives of the authorities». Her charges are politically motivated, and she is being prosecuted solely for peacefully expressing her opinion. Therefore, she should be immediately released.

**I am calling on you to take all necessary steps to ensure the immediate release of Natalya Filonova. While she is still incarcerated, I urge you to ensure that she is not subjected to arbitrary punishment. The alleged ill-treatment of Natalya Filonova in the IK-11 penal colony must be promptly and effectively investigated, and those suspected of responsibility should face fair disciplinary, administrative or criminal proceedings as appropriate.**

Yours sincerely,

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**Copie**

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