

Embassy of the Russian Federation

[Address of the Embassy]

[Postal code and city]

Distinguished representatives of the Embassy of the Russian Federation,

As a citizen of the European Union, I am writing to you with an extremely important and necessary appeal for the immediate release of Ukrainian civilians who are illegally detained in your custody. I express my serious concern for the plight of these people, who are being held in conditions that violate international human rights standards.

Civilians were captured arbitrarily, without documentation of the reasons and without announcement of the reasons for detention.

The detentions were systematic, while the transfer of all captured civilians to the Russian Federation has obvious signs of coordination at the federal level.

Those captured from different occupied territories were placed in different Russian regions in specially prepared detention facilities. Civilians are kept together as if they were accused of committing criminal offenses or persons serving criminal sentences.

Detainees have no opportunity to appeal their detention, initiate a review of the grounds for arrest, or use legal assistance from a lawyer, and are deprived of communication with the outside world, even postal communication.

Detainees are not able to provide their families or their state with at least minimal information about their imprisonment, which allows the Russian Federation to conceal the number of detainees and the deterioration of their physical condition.

Both civilians and prisoners of war are constantly subjected to physical violence that amounts to torture. There is also information about systematic inhuman treatment by them, as well as constant stay in inhumane conditions.

Concealing the number of detainees allows the Russian Federation to hide the fact that a certain number of detainees cannot withstand torture and inhuman treatment and die.

We urge you to act in accordance with international law and release the Ukrainian civilians immediately. This issue concerns humanitarian values and international norms, and the treatment of civilians amounts to a war crime, as they are being arbitrarily detained, deported to Russia, which is prohibited by international humanitarian law, tortured, and deprived of the right to judicial protection.

We believe that in a civilized world, medieval practices cannot be tolerated. The treatment of Ukrainian civilians must be investigated, and those responsible, including those in the federal government, punished.

[Your first and last name]

[Signature date]

[Your address]

[Signature]