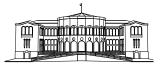
OSCEs Parlamentariske Forsamling 2014-15 OSCE Alm.del Bilag 6 Offentligt

His Excellency, Mr Ilham Aliyev

President of Azerbaijan The Presidential Palace

Istiglaliyyat street 19

AZ1066 Baku Azerbaijan



Stortinget

Norwegian Parliament

Date: December 2, 2014

Appeal for immediate protection of human rights defender Leyla Yunus

Mr President,

As members of the Norwegian delegations to the OSCE Parliamentary Assembly and the Parliamentary Assembly of the Council of Europe, we share the concerns expressed by the Council of Europe Commissioner for Human Rights, Nils Muižnieks, after his recent visit to Azerbaijan, on the deteriorating situation for human rights defenders in Azerbaijan in general and the health condition for Mrs Leyla Yunus in particular.

It has been brought to our attention that Mrs Yunus' health is critical and in need of urgent attention, and we call on the Azerbaijani authorities to provide immediate access to necessary health care treatment for Mrs Yunus. We would like to underline the human rights commitments of the government of Azerbaijan to provide adequate detention conditions in respect of human dignity.

Mrs Yunus is one of several human rights defenders in Azerbaijan that are imprisoned on false accusations and without a just judicial process. We denounce the judicial and administrative harassment of human rights defenders, and we call on the Azerbaijani authorities to protect those individuals who work and struggle for democracy and human rights.

It is unacceptable that a member state of the Organization Security and Cooperation in Europe, the Council of Europe, and the United Nations violate the key principles of democracy and human rights.

> Stortinget Norwegian Parliament NO-0026 Oslo Tel +47 23 31 30 50 www.stortinget.no

Yours sincerely,

Geir Jørgen Bekkevold Head of the Norwegian delegation to the OSCE PA

Torstein Solberg Tvedt

Member of the delegation to the OSCE PA

Ola Elvestuen Member of the delegation to the OSCE PA

lone anste y c

Tone Merete Sønsterud Member of the delegation to the OSCE PA

Ingjerd Schori

Ingjerd Schou Head of the Norwegian delegation to PACE

Kari Henriksen Member of the delegation to the OSCE PA

Tor André Johnsen Member of the delegation to the OSCE PA

<u>Copy:</u> Mr Ogtay Asadov Speaker of the Milli Majlis

Mr Zakir Garalov Prosecutor General of Azerbaijan

Mrs Anne Brasseur President of PACE

Mr Ilkka Kanerva President of the OSCE PA

Mr Torbjørn Jagland Secretary General of the Council of Europe

Mr Lamberto Zannier Secretary General of the OSCE

Mr Børge Brende Minister of Foreign Affairs of Norway