



*Permanent Mission of the Republic of Cyprus  
Geneva*

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The Permanent Mission of the Republic of Cyprus to the United Nations Office at Geneva and other International Organizations in Switzerland presents its compliments to the Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights and, following the letter of the Rapporteur on Reprisals with reference G/SO 229/31 CYP 1, dated 8 September 2021, has the honour to transmit herewith an information Note comprising the response of the Government of the Republic of Cyprus.

The Permanent Mission of the Republic of Cyprus to the United Nations Office at Geneva and other International Organizations in Switzerland avails itself of this opportunity to renew to the Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights the assurances of its highest consideration.



Encl.: As stated

To the  
Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights  
**Geneva**  
Email: [registry@ohchr.org](mailto:registry@ohchr.org)

## SUBMISSION BY CYPRUS ADDRESSED TO THE RAPPORTEUR ON REPRISALS

In relation to the letter of the Rapporteur on Reprisals under Article 22 of the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment, dated 8 September 2021 and, following the replies submitted by the Cyprus Government regarding information relating to alleged ill-treatment of Mr. Alexei Demin, included in the Notes Verbales of the Permanent Mission of Cyprus, dated 17 March 2022, 3 January 2022, 5 January 2022 and 20 January 2022, Cyprus reiterates its position that “allegations raised are non-existent”, “they are factually incorrect” and “they are expedient in order for the Complainant to delay his extradition”.

More specifically, the Annex 4 of the letter submitted before the Committee against Torture by the Minister of Justice and Public Order, transmitted via the Note Verbale of the Permanent Mission of Cyprus, dated 5 January 2022 (English version transmitted via the NV, dated 20/1/2022), provides a detailed report prepared by the Prisons Authorities about the Complainant’s allegations (attached herewith for ease of reference) with regards to the conditions of his detention, addressing also the allegations that he and his family have been threatened.

It is mentioned therein that “the issues...about the conditions of all the independent mechanisms, such as the Commissioner for Administration and Human Rights, as well as, the Council of the Prisons, were investigated and it became clear that the claims were unfounded”. It also stipulates that “...the said prisoner stated in writing that he did not have any complaint about the conditions of his detention”.

As regards claims raised by Mr. Demin about threats against him “...since the summer (June until August 2021) the prisoner was asked several times in his mother language by the investigating officer, whether he wished the Police to be called to investigate his claims which are recorded in the letters of his lawyer and he replied that he does not wish the Police to be called, because his lawyer is handling the issues”. Also, the report refers to the process initiated by the Police to investigate his claims, and that the prisoner “...mentioned to the policeman who appeared on 5.10.21 for the investigation of his claims that he does not wish to mention anything to the Police since his lawyer is handling the issues.”. It is also mentioned that “...there was a new complaint to the Chief of Police by his lawyers with the same content, where the Police came to the prisons several times for the investigation of his claims”.

Additionally, regarding the complainant’s same claims against him and his family and “...especially that these began after his complaint to the Committee on 11.6.21 against the Prison, these are rejected categorically...”. The same report also points out that “...as regards the claims for threats against his person, his everyday life through the Closed Circuit Monitoring System, proves the opposite. The said prisoner, not only is not threatened by anyone, but has a freedom of movement like all the prisoners, enjoying his everyday life like every prisoner...enjoying socialization with his co-prisoners...”.

In closing and in view of the above, it must be highlighted that the Cyprus Government is of the view that it had provided adequate information to the Office of the High Commissioner of Human Rights on several aspects concerning the case under reference, including the merits, the admissibility, as well as the conditions relating to the detention of the Complainant, equally addressing the allegations that he has been subjected to reprisals. As it can, also, be acknowledged from the attached report, Prison Authorities have taken all the appropriate measures to comply with both Articles 13 and 16 of the Convention.

Lastly, it is underlined that the Cyprus Government remains steadfast in its commitment to promote human rights and attributes, in this regard, great significance to the United Nations Convention against Torture, as the principal human rights instrument combatting torture.

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