

EXTERNAL (for general distribution)

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Fear of Imminent Execution

9 September 1992

UKRAINE:

Viktor Petrovich GOROKHOV, farm worker

Amnesty International has learned from unofficial sources that the President of Ukraine has turned down the petition for clemency lodged by a man on death row, Viktor Gorokhov, and that the sentence may be carried out within the next six days.

Viktor Gorokhov, a young farm worker from southern Ukraine, is said to have killed his parents-in-law because he believed them responsible for persuading his estranged wife to refuse him access to their small daughter. He was found guilty of premeditated, aggravated murder (Article 93 of the Ukrainian Criminal Code) and sentenced to death by Nikolayev Regional Court. He reportedly gave himself up after the murders, and was subsequently admitted to a psychiatric hospital for treatment. He is said to have no previous convictions.

Amnesty International opposes the death penalty in all cases and without reservation, on the grounds that it is a violation of the right to life and the right not to be subjected to cruel, inhuman and degrading treatment or punishment as proclaimed in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights. The organization is appealing to the President of Ukraine, Leonid Makarovich Kravchuk, to reverse his decision and commute the death sentence passed on Viktor Gorokhov.

RECOMMENDED ACTION: Please send IMMEDIATELY telegrams/faxes/express and airmail letters either in English or your own language (or Ukrainian if this is possible without delay):

- urging President Kravchuk to reconsider his decision not to grant clemency to Viktor Petrovich Gorokhov, and to commute the death sentence;
- urging President Kravchuk to commute all other death sentences that come before him, in the spirit of Ukraine's co-sponsorship of the Second Optional Protocol to the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, the first worldwide treaty aimed at abolition of the death penalty.

APPEALS TO

The President of Ukraine
Leonid Makarovich Kravchuk
Ukraine
252601 Kiev
Kirov street no. 6
President of Ukraine

Leonid Makarovich Kravchuk

Telegrams: Ukraine, 252601 Kiev, ul. Kirova, Prezidentu Kravchuku L.M.

Faxes: + 7 044 293 10 01

Salutation: Dear President

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COPIES OF YOUR APPEALS TO:

Procurator General of Ukraine

Viktor I. Shishkin

Ukraine

252601 Kiev-II

Reznitskaya st. 13/15

Procuracy of Ukraine

Procurator General V.I. Shishkin

Chairman of Supreme Court of Ukraine

Aleksandr Nikiforovich Yakimenko

Ukraine

252601 Kiev

Kirov street

Supreme Court of Ukraine

Chairman Aleksandr Nikiforovich Yakimenko

Chairperson of the Clemency Commission of the Ukrainian Supreme Soviet

Ukraine

Kiev

Kirov street 6

Supreme Soviet of Ukraine

Chairperson of the Clemency Commission

Chairperson of Nikolayev Regional Court

Ukraine

g. Nikolayev

Oblastnoy sud

Predsdatellyu

and to diplomatic representatives of Ukraine accredited to your country

PLEASE SEND APPEALS IMMEDIATELY. Check with the International Secretariat, or your section office, if sending appeals after 15 September 1992.