

# URGENT ACTION

## RUSSIAN NATIONAL DETAINED IN EGYPT

**Ibrahim Zautdinovich Mankiev, a 32-year-old Russian man of Ingush ethnicity, has been detained incommunicado in Egypt since 10 November. He is believed to be held by State Security Investigations (SSI) officers in the northern coastal city of Alexandria. Ibrahim Zautdinovich Mankiev is at risk of torture and ill-treatment, and may be at risk of forcible return to Russia.**

**Ibrahim Zautdinovich Mankiev** and his wife, Maret Mankieva, were both detained after they visited the Russian consulate in Alexandria on 10 November to renew Ibrahim Zautdinovich Mankiev's passport. After they left they were followed by two plainclothes police officers, who allegedly beat Ibrahim Zautdinovich Mankiev, before detaining them both. No arrest warrant was produced, and no explanation was given for the detention. They were initially driven to a police station, before being driven to another police building in Alexandria – probably an SSI detention facility – where they were blindfolded and separated.

The security forces told Maret Mankieva that she and her husband had been under surveillance, and instructed her to take them to her home. She was permitted to see her husband for five minutes before leaving with the security forces; she told Amnesty International that Ibrahim Zautdinovich Mankiev's legs had been tied up with ropes, he had been handcuffed and that he was bleeding from the head and face. The security forces subsequently searched their home without a warrant and confiscated a number of personal documents. Maret Mankieva was permitted to remain at home after the security forces left, but her husband continued to be detained. Since then, Maret Mankieva has not been permitted to see her husband or pass on his personal belongings to him, and the authorities have not acknowledged holding him. No charges are known to have been brought against him. On 11 November, the Russian Vice-consul told Maret Mankieva that her husband was still detained, but that no one was allowed to see him.

In June at least six Russian nationals were forcibly deported from Egypt, following a wave of arrests in late May of foreign students – including about 35 Russians. Amnesty International is therefore concerned that Ibrahim Zautdinovich Mankiev may be at risk of forcible return to Russia, where he may face arbitrary detention and is at risk of torture and other ill-treatment.

### **PLEASE WRITE IMMEDIATELY in Arabic, English or your own language:**

- urging the authorities to disclose Ibrahim Zautdinovich Mankiev's whereabouts immediately, and give him access to lawyers of his choice, consular services, his family and any medical attention he may require;
- urging the authorities to ensure that he will not be tortured or otherwise ill-treated;
- calling on the authorities to release Ibrahim Zautdinovich Mankiev immediately and unconditionally, unless he is promptly charged with a recognizably criminal offence and given a fair trial in line with international standards;
- urging the Ministry of the Interior not to forcibly return Ibrahim Zautdinovich Mankiev or any other Russian nationals, who would be at risk of torture or other ill-treatment if returned to Russia.

### **PLEASE SEND APPEALS BEFORE 25 DECEMBER 2009 TO:**

Minister of the Interior  
Habib Ibrahim El Adly  
Ministry of the Interior  
25 El Sheikh Rihan Street  
Bab al-Louk, Cairo, Egypt  
**Fax: +20 22 796 0682**  
**Email: moi@idsc.gov.eg**  
**Salutation: Dear Minister**

Prosecutor General  
Abd El-Megeed Mahmoud  
Dar al-Qadha al-'Ali  
Ramses Street, Cairo, Egypt  
**Fax: +20 22 577 4716**  
**Salutation: Dear Counsellor**

### **And copies to:**

Deputy Assistant Minister of Foreign Affairs for Human Rights  
Wael Abu al-Magd  
Human Rights and International Humanitarian and Social Affairs  
Ministry of Foreign Affairs  
Corniche al-Nil, Cairo, Egypt  
**Fax: +20 22 574 9713**

Also send copies to diplomatic representatives of Egypt accredited to your country. Please check with your section office if sending appeals after the above date.

**AMNESTY  
INTERNATIONAL**



# URGENT ACTION

## RUSSIAN NATIONAL DETAINED IN EGYPT

### ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Ibrahim Zautdinovich Mankiev and Maret Mankieva have been living in Egypt for the last three years. They came in order to escape the harassment they had faced from the authorities in Russia, where Ibrahim Zautdinovich Mankiev was an imam (Muslim cleric). He continued to study Islam while in Egypt and was going to apply for Islamic studies at a university. The Russian consulate in Egypt apparently was unable to renew Ibrahim Zautdinovich Mankiev's passport, and claimed at the time that they had no information about him in their records.

On 19 June, Russian nationals Maskhud Abdullaev, arrested on 27 May, and Akhmed Azimov, were forcibly returned from Cairo to Moscow, where they were detained by men in plainclothes. While Akhmed Azimov was released after a few hours' questioning, the whereabouts of Maskhud Abdullaev – whose father is the leader of a Chechen armed group – was unknown until 29 June, when he appeared on Chechen TV and said that he came to Chechnya of his free will “to visit his relatives and to see how life is in Chechnya.” There were doubts, however, whether Maskhud Abdullaev had arrived in Chechnya of his own free will. Human rights organizations expressed fears that Maskhud Abdullaev was being held by the Chechen security services in order to put pressure on his father, and use him for propaganda purposes. Only after intervention by human rights activists was Maskhud Abdullaev able to leave Chechnya and travel to Azerbaijan to join his family (see UA 170/09, EUR 46/017/2009, and follow-ups).

Four other Russians were deported from Egypt on 18 June, detained on arrival in Russia and then released after questioning. Amnesty International regularly receives reports of detainees being tortured or otherwise ill-treated in the Russian Federation, and of the authorities failing to investigate such reports effectively, or bring those responsible to justice.

UA: 307/09 Index: MDE 12/033/2009 Issue Date: 13 November 2009

