

URGENT ACTION

CRIMEAN RIGHTS DEFENDER TO APPEAR IN COURT

The pre-trial investigation into the case of Crimean Tatar human rights defender Emir-Usein Kuku, falsely accused of membership in an alleged terrorist organisation in Crimea, has now concluded. Emir-Usein Kuku's case will now be heard before a military court, in Russia. His family's harassment has stopped for now.

Human rights defender **Emir-Usein Kuku's** lawyers were informed at the end of July that the de facto Crimean authorities' pre-trial investigation into both his alleged membership of Islamist organisation, "Hizb ut-Tahrir" (which is considered a terrorist group in Russia) and on the charge of trying to overthrow the Russian government, have concluded. Emir-Usein Kuku will remain held in a pre-trial detention centre commonly known as SIZO, in Simferopol, the capital of the Russian-occupied Crimea until his trial. The case will be heard before a military court in Rostov-on-Don, Russia, the date of which has yet to be announced. Emir-Usein Kuku will be transferred to Rostov-on-Don for the trial. His lawyers are currently preparing the defence.

Emir-Usein Kuku's family have not been harassed since October 2016. They are thankful for our support.

We will continue to monitor the situation closely and be pursuing other campaigning avenues but at this time we request no further action be taken from the UA network. Thank you to all those who sent appeals.

This is the first update of UA 229/16. Further information: www.amnesty.org/en/documents/eur50/4953/2016/en/

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