

URGENT ACTION

UKRANIAN OFFICER RELEASED, REUNITES WITH FAMILY

Ukrainian officer Ivan Bezyazykov was released from detention by the pro-Russian separatists in eastern Ukraine on 5 July after spending more than 22 months in captivity and being subjected to torture and other ill-treatment. He has reunited with his wife and children in Zhytomyr, Ukraine.

Ukrainian colonel **Ivan Bezyazykov** was captured on 16 August 2014 during a battle with the pro-Russian separatists in eastern Ukraine. They allowed him to make phone calls on several occasions to his wife until May 2015. In October 2015, Amnesty International issued an Urgent Action on behalf of Ivan Bezyazykov, following information from his wife about his torture and other ill-treatment and the threats he had received while in captivity.

Ivan Bezyazykov was finally released on 5 July. He is now home in Zhytomyr, northern Ukraine, with his wife and their children.

Thank you to all those who sent appeals. No further action is requested from the UA network.

This is the first update of UA 231/15. Further information: <https://www.amnesty.org/en/documents/EUR50/2680/2015/en/>

Further information on UA: 231/15 Index: EUR 50/4444/2016 Issue Date: 15 July 2016

