



EUROPEAN UNION

DELEGATION TO THE REPUBLIC OF TAJIKISTAN

Local EU Statement on the sentencing of Mr. Buzurgmehr Yorov

The European Union Delegation issues the following statement in agreement with the EU Heads of Mission in Tajikistan.

According to media reports, the Supreme Court of Tajikistan upheld the previous court verdict of a 23-year-long prison term for Tajik human rights lawyer Mr. Buzurgmehr Yorov.

The EU draws attention to the overall lack of transparency of the court proceedings and to the fact that Mr. Yorov's right to a fair trial has been violated, which is not in line with Tajikistan's obligations under international law. Unfortunately, notwithstanding earlier reassurances given by the Tajik authorities, EU representatives were not permitted to observe the trial either.

The EU calls upon the Tajik authorities to abide fully by the country's commitments to guarantee the fundamental freedoms and uphold the rule of law.

Dushanbe, 3 March 2017