

Denisova asks Russian ombudswoman to help her visit four Ukrainians in Russian jail

By **Interfax-Ukraine**. Published June 19 at 8:55 pm



Earlier, it was reported that Denisova was not allowed to visit Roman Sushchenko kept in Russia.

Photo by **Lyudmyla Denisova/Facebook**

Ukrainian Human Rights Commissioner Liudmyla Denisova has prepared a letter to her Russian counterpart, Tatyana Moskalkova, asking to help her visit Volodymyr Balukh, Oleh Sentsov, Stanyslav Klykh, and Oleksandr Kolchenko, all Ukrainians being held in custody in Russia.

“In the context of our recent agreements with the Russian side, we have prepared our letter and have already delivered it to the Russian ombudsman’s office,” Denisova wrote on Facebook on June 19, posting a scan of the letter.

In it, she expressed concern about the health of the

Ukrainian prisoners who have declared an indefinite hunger strike: Volodymyr Balukh (93 days on hunger strike), Oleh Sentsov (37 days), Stanyslav Klykh (12 days), and Oleksandr Kolchenko (who has ended his hunger strike after losing eight kilograms).

“According to my information, their health condition is getting worse. Right now, I have no thorough information on the health condition of these persons. I, therefore, ask you help me visit Balukh, Sentsov, Klykh, and Kolchenko to monitor the observance of their rights to appropriate medical aid,” Denisova wrote.

She pledged to help Moskalkova with a simultaneous visit to four Russian convicts in Ukraine “in accordance with the list that has been announced.”

Earlier on June 19, following a meeting with Denisova, Moskalkova said in a statement that the commissioners had approved a roadmap for mutual visits to convicts.

The two had their first meeting on June 18 and agreed on a framework for visiting prisoners. Agreements reached earlier are not being fulfilled, so new talks between the commissioners will be held, Denisova said on June 19.

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Klimkin: Russia still holding 38 Ukrainians as political prisoners

By **Interfax-Ukraine**. Published Oct. 26, 2017 at 7:52 pm



 Pavlo Klimkin, Ukrainian Minister for Foreign Affairs, testifies before the Senate State, Foreign Operations and Related Programs Subcommittee March 7, 2017 in Washington, DC.

Photo by **AFP**

The Foreign Affairs Minister of Ukraine, Pavlo Klimkin, has said that at the moment, 38 Ukrainian political prisoners are held in Russia.

“38 political prisoners from Ukraine are now in Russian prisons, there are many in the occupied Donbas...” the minister said at the Kyiv Transatlantic Dialogues conference in Kyiv on October 26.

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According to Klimkin, next year Ukraine plans to submit to the UN a resolution “where it will be stressed that Russia is preventing international humanitarian organizations from gaining access to the occupied Crimea.”

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