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Mr. Kalmukhanbet Kassymov
Ministry of Internal Affairs
1 Tauelsizdyk Street
Astana, Kazakhstan 010000

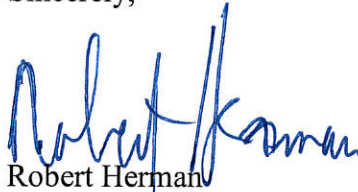
Dear Mr. Kassymov,

Freedom House is closely following the news regarding civic activists Max Bokayev and Talgat Ayan, who were detained on May 17 after expressing their intent to participate in the May 21 demonstrations. Although we thoroughly disagree with the charges levied and believe them to be in direct violation of Articles 20 and 32 of the Constitution of the Republic of Kazakhstan, I am writing today to express my deep concern about the health of Max Bokayev.

Mr. Bokayev suffers from a congenital immune disorder – Hepatitis C – which requires the individual to receive continual medical treatment. Freedom House has been informed that Mr. Bokayev has been deprived of this necessary treatment since the day of his detention. With this in mind, Freedom House firmly reminds the Government of Kazakhstan that adequate and timely medical assistance should be guaranteed to any person in custody as a part of State policy aimed at ensuring detainee’s rights guaranteed by Articles 6 and 10 of the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights (ICCPR).

Freedom House calls on Kazakhstan as an ICCPR State-Party to take immediate steps to ensure that the conditions of Max Bokayev’s detention are compatible with Kazakhstan’s international obligations.

Sincerely,



Robert Herman
Vice President of Programs
Freedom House

Mark P. Lagon
President

cc: H.E. Mr. Erlan Idrissov, Minister of Foreign Affairs