

October 26, 2012

Sergey Beliaev
Sutyajnik

Dear Mr. Beliaev:

On November 15, 2012, NGOs and applicants' lawyers from around Europe will travel to Strasbourg for the traditional bi-annual meeting of the European Court of Human Rights. As on prior occasions, the Open Society Justice Initiative is pleased to be collaborating with the Registry in respect of this meeting.

As you may know, the Open Society Justice Initiative is a human rights law reform organization that litigates before domestic and regional courts, including the European Court of Human Rights, most recently in the extraordinary rendition case of *El-Masri v the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia* currently pending before the Grand Chamber. In addition, the Justice Initiative has been actively working in collaboration with other public interest litigators and civil society groups across Europe to ensure that recent reform efforts strengthen the Court's work.

This year, the Justice Initiative will convene a separate consultation the day before the Court meeting, on Wednesday, November 14, to discuss civil society's perspectives on the future of the Court. The consultation is intended as a separate forum for NGOs and lawyers only to exchange information and prepare positions to be presented to the Registry at the November 15 Court meeting. The Justice Initiative sees this consultation as a particularly important opportunity after the Brighton conference on the future of the Court to assess proposals to address the Court's backlog of cases.

In addition, on Friday, November 16, the Justice Initiative will convene a smaller, separate session at the Court to discuss the particular question of execution of judgments. Participants will include the Department for the Execution of Judgments of the Court, academics, permanent representations of missions in Strasbourg, and representatives from the Court, NGOs and the European Group of National Human Rights Institutions. We would welcome your participation in this smaller session as well.

Prompt and full implementation of the judgments of the European Court of Human Rights is essential to the functioning of the European human rights protection system. Despite progress in improving the Committee of Ministers' supervision of the execution of judgments, non-execution remains a problem.

The meeting on November 16 will explore potential improvements to the Committee of Ministers' supervision procedure and highlight gaps in national implementation of judgments. Panel presentations and discussions will aim to identify both good practices and possible measures for overcoming remaining impediments to implementation. We hope this meeting will serve as a platform in which stakeholders can exchange views and share ideas about ways to improve the execution of judgments. Enclosed please find a draft agenda for further information.

Our consultant Claire Fernandez (claire8.fernandez@gmail.com) would be happy to respond to any questions you may have. We would appreciate if you could inform Claire by October 26 if you will be able to attend, and we hope to see you there.

Sincerely yours,



Rupert Skilbeck
Litigation Director

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