

Letter: In support of Dr. Gubad Ibadoghlu

Your Excellency,

I write in support of Dr. Gubad Ibadoghlu, a world-renowned Scholar and Economist who has been arrested and is being detained in a government facility in Baku since Sunday, July 24. We respectfully inquire into the overall circumstances of the arrest and question the rationale of the proposed detention of Dr. Ibadoghlu until his trial more than three months from now. We also ask you to review the legality of the proceedings: we believe that every defendant has rights to legal counsel and a fair trial. We trust that after review you will facilitate consultation as soon as possible. Most importantly, we believe it is essential that Dr. Ibadoghlu receives the medication he urgently needs and which has been kept from him since his arrest.

TU Dresden sees itself as fortunate to have won Dr. Ibadoghlu as a visiting scholar for our institution. We know him to be a brilliant thinker, researcher, and teacher who has made, and hopefully will continue to make, valuable contributions to science and teaching missions of world-class universities. We also know him as an honest, supportive person: we do not recognize our colleague in the charges levelled against him. We call on the authorities to thoroughly re-examine their legitimacy.

TU Dresden is a global university, our activities both at home and abroad are grounded in the standards of academic freedom and the protection of human rights. Please demonstrate that the Republic of Azerbaijan respects these values as well by affording Dr. Ibadoghlu the right to legal counsel, access to needed medical care, and a thorough and transparent airing of the charges against him.

Sincerely,

Rector Prof. Dr. Ursula Staudinger