

The Honorable Mr. Fuad Isgandarov
Embassy of Azerbaijan in Belgium
Av. Molière 464, B-1050 Brussels, Belgium
brussels@mission.mfa.gov.az
office@azembassy.be

Brussels, December 12th, 2014

The European Federation of Journalists demands the immediate release of Khadija Ismayilova

Dear Honorable Ambassador,

The European Federation of Journalists (EFJ), representing 320,000 journalists in 39 European countries, calls on the authorities of Azerbaijan for the immediate release of our prominent colleague, the imprisoned journalist **Khadija Ismayilova**.

We strongly believe that the imprisonment of the renowned journalist of Radio Azadliq is another attempt from the authorities to silent all critical and independent voices defending human rights and press freedom in Azerbaijan.

The arrest of Azerbaijan's most prominent journalist has shocked the journalist community in Europe. This new attempt to silence Khadija Ismayilova is ridiculous, considering the absurd charge against her (she was accused of provoking the attempted suicide of another person).

The EFJ immediately reported this case to the European Commission (Vice-President Frans Timmermans), the Council of Europe (Commissioner Nils Muiznieks) and the OSCE (Representative for Freedom of the Media Dunja Mijatovic). We ask you to convey our request to the highest authorities of the State.

With regards,



Ricardo Gutiérrez

General Secretary of the EFJ



Mogens Blicher Bjerregård

President of the EFJ