**Am 31. Juli 2014 wurden die Menschenrechtsverteidigerin Leyla Yunusova und ihr Mann Arif Yunus in Baku, der Hauptstadt von Aserbaidschan verhaftet. Die Staatsanwaltschaft bezichtigte die Beiden des Hochverrats, der Spionage für das verfeindete Nachbarland Armenien und des Steuerbetrugs. Leyla und Arif Yunus waren aufgrund anhaltender Verfolgung und Repressalien durch das Regime im Herbst 2010 als Gäste der Hamburger Stiftung für politisch Verfolgte an die Elbe eingeladen worden. Seitdem haben wir den Weg dieser beiden mutigen Menschen kontinuierlich verfolgt und begleitet.**

**Schon im Frühjahr 2014 wussten wir von Leyla Yunusova, dass der Druck des Regimes auf sie und andere Kämpfer für Demokratie und Menschenrechte stieg. Nachdem sie Ende Mai an der Ausreise aus Aserbaidschan gehindert und für wenige Tage inhaftiert worden war, kam der Haftbefehl gegen das Ehepaar Yunus Ende Juli für uns nicht wirklich überraschend.**

**Schockiert hat uns allerdings die Brutalität und Gleichgültigkeit des Regimes seinen politischen Häftlingen gegenüber. Leyla Yunusovas Gesundheit hat im vergangenen Jahr weiter schwer gelitten. Auch der Historiker Arif Yunus ist schwer krank. Alle Bitten, auch des Auswärtigen Amtes in Berlin, auf Haftverschonung und einer Ausreisegenehmigung für die Beiden aus medizinischen Gründen wurden abgelehnt.**

**Nun also hat der Prozess gegen Leyla und Arif Yunus begonnen. Die schwersten Vorwürfe wurden von der Staatsanwaltschaft fallen gelassen, wa wir als eindeutiges Zeichen dafür nehmen, dass schon die Verhaftung im Vorfeld der ersten Europa-Olympiade in Baku politisch motiviert war.**

**Wir werden Sie in diesem Blog über die Entwicklungen des Verfahrens auf dem Laufenden halten.**

**Bitte lesen Sie die folgende Chronologie der Repression und politisch motivierten Haft von Leyla und Arif Yunus.**

**Wir danken Ihnen für Ihre Unterstützung.**

**Martina Bäurle**

**Geschäftsführerin**

**The next court hearing will be on July 27, 2014 at 10 o’clock in the morning.**

 **July 16, 2015: Dinara Yunusova, the daughter of Leyla and Arif Yunus, reacts to the devastating pictures of her imprisoned parents in front oft he court in Baku**

Dear friends,

It is terrible what they are doing to my parents :( my mum lost 10 years ... its horrible how she looks :(

i heard during first hour at court mum and dad were just hugging each other without paying attention to anything..

i don't even want to imagine what my dad is going through now.

this is a video from court day 2 :(

<http://youtu.be/ixJXvxu_Hws>

hugs,

dinara

Sincerely,

Dinara Yunus

Human rights activist,

Institute for Peace and Democracy

 **Information about Dr. Arif Yunus**

 He has 3rd degree hypertension, this means stroke, paralysis, haemorrhage, and unpredictable fluctuations in blood pressure.

At court Arif Yunus was holding the back of his head – usually he takes pills for his blood pressure and heart and he take rest. The last time he was holding his head like that he had stroke. (April detention). Arif Yunus has tumor on the back of his head.Doctors have not visited Arif Yunus, the x-ray of his head was not made.

 He cannot sleep without sleeping pills for a year now. He has been in solitary confinement since August 7, 2014!

And as also attacked during the first days of his detention.

**July 15, 2015: it’s the 2nd day of trial**

The Baku Court of Grave Crimes chaired by Afgan Hajiyev July 15 held a preparatory meeting on the case of Leyla and Arif Yunus.

The meeting was held in an atmosphere of heightened security. Journalists and members of foreign diplomatic missions were withdrawn handbags, mobile phones and identity cards. Places in the forefront of the hall were occupied by bailiffs and prison staff. Because of that many people could not get there.

Leyla and Arif Yunus were placed in a glass cage and looked very sick. They lost much weight, especially Leyla Yunus. Pale with sunken eyes, she turned gray and her hair thinned.

During the meeting, the lawyer Afghan Mammadov requested that his client Arif Yunus should be allowed to sit next to him.

He further requested the termination of criminal proceedings against Yunus in the absence of evidence of their guilt. The actions of A. Yunus did not constitute any fraud crime since this crime involves embezzlement through abuse of his confidence. From the materials of the case it is not clear whose property Yunus appropriated and what the breach of trust was about.

Leyla Yunus's lawyer Ramiz Mammadov also requested that the defendant should sit beside him and the trial should be recorded on video. He also petitioned to release Yunus either under house arrest or bail. He noted the serious health condition of Leyla Yunus who underwent six operations, operations on both eyes, suffering from diabetes and hepatitis C.

As the lawyer said, severe illness of Leyla Yunus was confirmed by international experts who examined her in detention.

"In order to stop the process of degradation of the liver she is prescribed a drug Harbony, a pack of which costs 40 thousand Euros. These drugs are provided to her by the German Embassy. It is a measure the severity of her condition and to keep her in custody is life threatening. I do not want Leyla Yunus to die in prison," said the lawyer.

Further, the lawyer requested the termination of the criminal proceedings and named unfounded the accusations of illegal business. The work of the Institute for Peace and Democracy without state registration and implementation of grant projects cannot be against the law. The legislation has no such rules.

Grants without state registration also do not mean illegal business, because these projects have served the community.

As for the charges of forgery, we are talking about an episode in 2002 and due to the period of limitation, it cannot currently be investigated in court, the lawyer said.

The lawyer also said about insolvency of the charges of fraud and tax evasion.

Another lawyer Elchin Gambarov requested the deletion from witnesses of three persons who have expressed hostility to L. Yunus and Metanet Azizova, who received political asylum in the Czech Republic and for obvious reasons, cannot give evidence.

The defense also objected to attract Rena Safaraliyeva, Chairwoman of the Society of Women of Azerbaijan for Peace and Democracy in the Near Caucasus as a victim. This NGO was abolished in June 2014, before the arrest of Yunus

The Institute of Peace and Democracy without state registration implemented projects in collaboration with the said NGO. Yunus managed projects, conducting banking transactions on the basis of a power of attorney from Safaraliyeva.

R. Safaraliyeva is represented at the trial by Counsel Shohrat Allahmanov (he defended Elman Turkoglu, who filed a lawsuit against the journalist Khadija Ismayilova). Allahmanov opposed the requests as the prosecutor did. The court retired to deliberate.

During the break of the meeting Yunus asked the representative of the German Embassy in English and said that she could not take the transmitted expensive medicine, since in addition to these drugs, she takes six medications and it causes side effects.

Next Yunus said that she had persistent indigestion and before the arrival at the court she took six capsules of Imodium. In addition, she reported pain in the lower abdomen and back. She also said that she was occasionally subjected to physical pressure. On September 23, 2014 in the detention center she was beaten by Major Yagubov. The next time she was subjected to physical pressure on December 11, 2014 and June 20.

From strikes to the temple, the vision in her left eye was seriously damaged. Yunus also pointed to a lump about the size of a hen's egg in the back of the head on her husband, Arif, saying that it was cancer.

While L. Yunus spoke, the guards were trying to free the room. When the judge returned, L. Yunus asked to speak. However, the judge began to read the decision. Leyla Yunus began to insist on giving her a speech. "Let me speak... It's not fair ... You are depriving me of the right to speak… I know that it is a false trial, but you have to give me an opportunity to speak... This once again shows that it is a custom trial... You do not respect the law ... They want to exterminate us…'

The court rejected all the petitions and scheduled a hearing at 10 a.m. on 27 July.

**July 13, 2015: It’s the 1st day of trial against Leyla and Arif Yunus - after almost 1 year of politiclly motivated detention.**

It took the court only a few minutes to close this first session and to announce to continue hearings on July 15, 2015.

**May, 2015: Dinara Yunusova, daughter of Leyla and Arif Yunus, informs the Hamburger Stiftung für politisch Verfolgte and others on the latest developments in Baku:**

I was informed that the treason charge was removed from my parents’ case, but has not been completely dropped - as I understand. Unfortunately, Rauf Mirkadirov  (prominent journalist) is still accused of treason, and he is awaiting the trial for more than a year now while remaining in Ministry of National Security Prison since his arrest.

My parent's trial on economic charges is expected to start in the beginning - mid of July. To my information, today, on Monday 29 the investigation on economic charges  will be closed and passed to the court.

Since the court will be on economic charges, it will be open door court! Everyone will be able to attend.

In this connection, I would like to kindly ask you if  German Ambassador to Baku could attend to my parents’ trial. At the same time, I am asking to continue the pressure on humanitarian release of my parents - in order to receive life saving medical treatments abroad, especially in Netherlands, since I reside here and I will be able to take care of them.

Regarding health condition. My mum still has not received any medication to fight against rapidly developing hepatitis C and she is also not receiving any treatments on her eyes.

I still don’t have any information about my dad.

You can also kindly read my mum’s lawyer interview below to the Azadliq radio. I am not sure if you have already seen it.

**Investigation into Leyla and Arif Yunus case is about to finalize said Leyla Yunus lawyer Elchin Gambarov in an interview with Azadliq Radiosu. It is likely they both will appear in** **court soon.**

**The couple will be trialed only on the economic charges against them. The treason charge will be dealt with separately said the lawyer. It is possible the investigation into charges of treason might even be dropped. The final decision will be made by the investigative unit.**

**The couple was arrested last year among other prominent Azerbaijani rights defenders, activists and rights advocates. Leyla Yunus is accused of high treason, tax evasion and abuse of power.**

**Amnesty International declared the couple “prisoners of conscience”.**[**http://www.azadliq.org/content/article/27091172.html**](http://www.azadliq.org/content/article/27091172.html)

**Autumn 2014: From her prison cell, Leyla Yunusova manages to send a clandestine letter of love and encouragement to her imprisoned husband Arif.**

My dear Arif!

I have not written to you for a long time, they surrounded me with a thick ring, they fear my words more than the bullets.

Both of our detention periods were extended till August (by that time, it will be exactly a year since the arrest). Now, I know for sure, I understand their plans; they will keep us till the trial, till the end of 2015, and then there will be the “circus” trial - and by taking into account whole bunch of fabricated articles, they will give us from 10 to 15 years.

With all my experience, I understand everything clearly…

Scary? Yes, it is scary. It is very scary that we will not be together again - you, me and Dinara.

Who supports me? On the one hand V. Shalamov, on another hand A. Solzhenitsyn.

 I know you have order 227 and Chuikov is near you. We were given the famous article 58-6 (espionage), which fully revives the spirit of Stalinism…

Yes, Shalamov served 18 years, and Solzhenitsyn 8. But they were young. Solzhenitsyn was 27 at the moment of his arrest, and we are 60…

Finally Pericles realised the full shamefulness of holding Olympiad in the prison! Games were played, but the spirit of Pericles is against the usage of the term - Olympic…Amnesty International gathered 50,000 signatures demanding our immediate release…

On Feb 23rd Dinara registered Institute for Peace and Democracy in Netherlands.

Now IPD headed by Yunus (!) will continue its work in partnership with the leading HR organisations in the world…

Arif, my dear! We have been together for 37 years. It is so hard to be without you. But we have already entered history…

Yours,
Leyla

**November 25, 2014: Pressrelease by the Hamburger Stiftung für politisch Verfolgte on the worsening condition of Leyla and Arif Yunus, still held in prison by the regime of Azerbaijan on trumpeted charges**

Die Hamburger Stiftung für politisch Verfolgte verfolgt mit großer Bestürzung die staatliche forcierte schleichende körperliche und seelische Zerstörung ihres Stiftungsgastes Dr. Leyla Yuusova.

Heute erreichte uns ein Brandbrief von der Tochter Dinara Yunusova: Ihre Mutter wiege nur noch 48 Kilo, aufgrund der ihr verweigerten Medikamente habe sie hohen Blutzucker und Bluthochdruck. Ihr fielen Haare und Zähne aus und sie könne sich kaum noch auf den Beinen halten.

 Tochter Dnara befürchtet, dass ihre Mutter die Weihnachtszeit nicht überleben werde und sie dann - wenn alle in den Ferien sind - klammheimlich irgendwo verscharrt werde.

Am 27. Juli 2014 wurden die aserbaidschanische Menschenrechtsaktivistin Leyla Yunus und ihr Mann Arif wegen angeblicher Militärspionage, Steuervergehen und Staatsverleumdung verhaftet. Für die nachweislich gefälschten Vorwürfe drohen den Beiden bis zu 25 Jahre Haft.

In ihrer Zelle wird Leyla Yunusova regelmäßig von Mithäftlingen drangsaliert. Die Haftanstalt verweigert der an Diabetes und Hepatitis Erkrankten ihre von der Hamburger Stiftung nach Baku geschickten Medikamente. Der Historiker Arif Yunus wird in einem bekannten Folterkerker festgehalten.

Der französische Präsident François Hollande als auch der Deutsche Außenminister Frank Steinmeier verwandten sich persönlich für die mit dem französischen Orden der Ehrenlegion ausgezeichnete Menschenrechtsaktivistin. Bisher umsonst.

Die Hamburger Stiftung für politisch Verfolgte, zusammen mit internationalen Menschenrechtsorganisationen, fordert die bedingungslose Freilassung von Leyla und Arif Yunus und aller anderen politischen Häftlinge in Aserbaidschan.

Leyla Yunusova bat uns in einem persönlichen Brief, nicht zu verstummen.

**November 25, 2014: The Hamburger Stiftung für politisch Verfolgte writes a letter to members oft he European Parliament asking for suppport for imprisoned Human Rights Defenders Leyla and Arif Yunus**

Esteemed members of the European Parliament!

Leyla Yunusova, as well as her husband Arif Yunus, has worked for many years to defend human rights, develop democracy and protect ethnic minorities from discrimination. She would be a most worthy recipient of the European Parliament's Sakharov Prize for Freedom of Thought.

Awarding her the prize would also help protect her, Arif and the other 96 recorded political prisoners in Azerbaijan from further persecution and draw attention to the disgraceful human rights situation in a country that is a member of the Council of Europe. The award could make a positive impact on the overall situation in Azerbaijan before it becomes too late for many people.

**Dr. Leyla Yunusova and Dr.**Arif Yunus**, Azerbaijan were our fellowshipholders in Hamburg in 2010.**

The founder and leader of the non-governmental “Institute for Peace and Democracy” Dr. Leyla Yunusova has been targeted time and again by the government. Both suffered intimidation campaign, ranging from slander in the government press to death threats by strangers. In the summer of 2011, her Baku residence, which also housed her institute, was razed to the ground in the dead of night by pro-government rogues.

Since 30 July and August 2014, the Hamburg Foundation’s former guests and human rights activist **Dr. Leyla Yunusova and Dr. Arif Yunus are** being held in custody in Baku. Both are accused of treason and tax fraud. While both are seriously ill, they are now also faced with a prison sentence of up to 25 years.

**July 31, 2014: First Pressrelease by the Hamburger Stiftung für politisch Verfolgte on the detention oft he foundation’s former guest Leyla Yunusova and her husband Arif on politically motivated charges of treason, espionage and fiscal irregularities.**

**Pressemitteilung**

Leyla Yunusova

Ehem. Gast der Hamburger Stiftung für politisch Verfolgte

in Aserbaidschan verhaftet und des Landesverrats beschuldigt

Eine der bekanntesten aserbaidschanischen Menschenrechtsverteidigerinnen und Leiterin des Instituts für Frieden und Demokratie, Leyla Yunusova, wurde gestern um 11:45 Uhr auf Anordnung der Generalstaatsanwaltschaft in Baku gegen ihren Willen erneut zu einem sechsstündigen Verhör in das Gerichtsgebäude des „Nasimi District Court“ gebracht. Zuletzt geschah dies am 29.4.2014, nachdem sie am Flughafen von Baku verhaftet worden war. Im Anschluß an die gestrige Vernehmung wurde sie um 18:10 Uhr in ein Untersuchungsgefängnis gebracht. Laut Informationen ihres Mannes Dr. Arif Yunus, wird sie dort die nächsten drei Monate bis zur Verhandlung festgehalten werden.

Dr. Leyla Yunusova und der unter Hausarrest stehende Dr. Arif Yunus sind des Landesverrats (§ 276 Strafgesetzgebuch), der Steuerhinterziehung (§ 213), illegaler Geschäfte (§ 192 StGB), der Urkundenfälschung (320 StGB) und des Betrugs (178.3.2.) beschuldigt. Beide weisen die ihnen vorgeworfenen Delikte zurück, für die eine Strafe von 15 bis zu 25 Jahren Gefängnis verhängt werden kann.

Der Gesundheitszustand beider Angeklagten ist äußert kritisch. Dr. Leyla Yunusova ist schwer krank und auf ihre Medikamente angewiesen ist, die ihr im Gefängnis nicht gewährt werden.

Seit 20 Jahren kritisiert Leyla Yunusova das Justizwesen in Aserbaidschan. Regelmäßig erstellt sie Listen der politischen Gefangenen und berichtet über die landesweite Folterpraxis im Land. Siehe  ihre Arbeit auf [www.ttipd.info](http://www.ttipd.info). Leyla Yunusova ist international gut vernetzt und steht im engen Kontakt mit dem neuen Menschenrechtsbeauftragten des Auswärtigen Amts, Christoph Strässer.

Nachdem 2009 die Regierung Aserbaidschans eine Einschüchterungskampagne gegen Leyla Yunusova, ihre Mitarbeiter und Verwandten eröffnete, die von Diffamierungen in der Regierungspresse bis hin zu anonymen Morddrohungen reichte, nahm das Ehepaar 2010  die Einladung der Hamburger Stiftung an, in Hamburg zu arbeiten. Zum Jahresende 2010 kehrte die beiden nach Baku zurück und warnten fortan vor der Zerstörung von Alt-Stadtviertel in Baku für die Ausrichtung des „Euro Vision Song Contest- Wettbewerb“. Auch ihr Haus wurde von Bulldozern zusammengeschoben. Dr. Yunusova ist Trägerin zahlreicher Preise für Demokratie und Freiheit, u.a. des französischen Ordens der Ehrenlegion für besondere Dienste.

**May, 2014: Human Rights Defender Leyla Yunusova of Azerbaijan and former guest oft he Hamburger Stiftung für politisch Verfolgte knew, what was goiong to happen. In this following letter to the foundation she described her and her husband Arif’s first arrest at the international airport of Baku and the following days of harrassement and persecution by the authorities of Azerbaijan.**

**40 POLICEMEN AGAINST 58 YEARS OLD HUMAN RIGHTS DEFENDER**

*Investigators of General Office of Public Prosecutor violated Article 3 and Article 5 of European Convention for the Protection of Human Rights and Fundamental Freedoms*

On April 28th at 22:30 at the Bina Airport my husband and my passports and our boarding passes were snatched from our hands and we were guided to the small room on which door was the name board hanging “Security Office”. Our luggage that we handed over during check in registration was also brought there. Seven airport workers who carried out private search and two investigators of Office of Public Prosecutor Sanan Pashayev and Ibragim Lemberanski crowded into this small room.

We were not provided with any written court decision regarding the ban on leaving the country, court decision regarding realization of personal search. Ibragim Lemberanski orally stated that we are banned to leave the country, without explaining any reasons. Starting from 22:30 until 3:40 in the morning we were kept in this room (without any possibilities to use a toilet). They were conducting detailed search of all our belongings. Our lawyer that came to the airport was not allowed to us. Protocol of personal search and of search of private baggage was not shown to us. The workers of the airport signed it, as I understood, as witnesses. Nothing blameworthy was founded, but they took away our laptop, video camera and photo camera, passports (!), documents on property (to our apartment many a time during our absence intrusion by non authorized persons is taken place, and that is why when both of us leave the country we are trying to take the most important documents with us, so we don’t lose them or afterwards we don’t spend a lot of time renewing them).

About 03:40 in the morning we were seated in the car, and taken outside the airport area, two men in civilian clothes, but with athletic body frame were attached to us as security.

On our way from the airport unknown to us athletic bodyguards scoffed at us in every possible way. In particular, they were saying smilingly, that when wife is raped in the presence of a husband, he would sign any confession. And if husband will be raped, then…

We were not explained where they were taking us, and only when we saw that we were approaching to our apartment at Nariman Narimanov avenue 125, we understood that we were brought home. Upon our arrival, I received a real shock as I saw 6 police minibuses in the yard! There were 40 policemen and young athletic men crowded in our entrance! We were treated very roughly. Investigator I.Lemberanski in crude form demanded from me to open the apartment for investigation. When I asked from him the search warrant, he only ironically hemmed. In the result of stressful experiences, especially after the threats in the car, my husband Arif Yunusov, he could not bear it anymore, and he ended up having heart attack and he fell straight on the stairs of entrance. Journalists that were here with us called for ambulance.

I rushed out from the building, clearly understanding, that if I opened the door to our apartment, tens will get inside, and would more likely put furtively anything into there. I said that I was not going to open the door, if there would not be concrete number of people, who will conduct the search, and journalists will be taken as witnesses. Athletic framed persons in civil clothes surrounded me and Lemberanski in rough form started yelling at me: “Open the door! Witnesses will always be from our side. We have to conduct search immediately”. Journalists informed me that my husband started feeling worse. I run into the street, to see whether ambulance arrived. Policemen and people in civil clothes inseparably followed me.

Finally, ambulance arrived, however for more than thirty minutes policemen did not allow doctors to take my husband to the hospital. When I saw that he was struggling in convulsions, I experienced nervous breakdown. I was screaming at Lemberanski that he would be guilty if my husband dies. At last, seeing that Arif can really die, police cars gave way to ambulance and my husband was taken to the reanimation of hospital.

Tortures towards me continued with a new force. The Chief of Yasamal District Police colonel Ismail Asadov approached to me. He started shouting at me and offending me, demanding to open the door immediately. It was already around 5:00 o’clock in the morning. I wanted to go to the toilet and called neighbors asking them to open me the door. I went inside the next building, heading to my neighbors where I could use their toilet. Six robust policemen followed me. When my neighbor opened the door of her apartment three policemen entered to the apartment with me. As soon as I entered, I went to the toilet, as I could not stand it anymore. Right after a second, young policeman followed me into the toilet room, intently observing as I was taking of and putting on my panties, simultaneously scoffed at me, by using street words, insulting me in every possible way. My 84 years old neighbor had a stress in result, and she started crying. In order not to put in a spot my neighbors, I went downstairs to the yard again.

In the yard I referred to colonel Asadov, telling him about outrageous behavior of policeman, who was disgracing me. I was experiencing a deep stress, my illness diabetes also started showing. Good that my neighbor gave me an apple, which I started eating at once. Colonel Asadov loudly justified the actions of his subordinate, stating that I am not Azerbaijan woman, but Armenian, and against Armenian woman any kind of violence is acceptable. Policemen started oppressing and insulting me. In order to avoid any violence, I sat inside one of the journalist’s car. I asked to tell them, that they can do anything, as well as breaking into my apartment. Since their outrageous actions caused my husband almost to die, I could not think about the furniture and apartment. So they could do anything.

It was about seven o’clock in the morning. I was feeling dizzy and nausea, I was afraid that I was going to fall down. Lemberanski stated that they will not conduct any search; that it has been canceled, but I will be taken for the questioning to the Office of Public Prosecutor. I said that I would go there only if accompanied by my lawyer and trustee. At seven o’clock in the morning we were in the High Crimes Department of Office of Public Prosecutor. Here my torture continued till 16:30. Four investigators one after another were questioning me, 58 years old exhausted woman. Investigator Sanan Pashayev did not let me to sit, so I could stretch my legs. I had a backache; started feeling acute pains from intercostal neuralgia. Asked questions and the whole nature of this questioning word for word resembled the questioning of People’s Commissariat of Internal Affairs of Stalin Period. That; as if they had evidences that I am Armenian spy, and that I work for many years in behalf of Armenia and etc. I also refused to sign the transcript of interrogation. My trustees also have not signed it. But, even by reading the transcript of interrogation, it was evident, that questions and my answers stated in it, harshly differed from the ones that were actually asked and answered. Investigator Sanan Pashayev formulated questions and answers on his own discretion.

Around 17:00, me exhausted and hardly standing on my feet, I was seated in the car again and I was taken to my apartment on address Nizami 53, apt.30. Again there were tens of policemen in the yard here. I was very tired, I could not see clearly, I could hardly stand on my feet, but despite that I told Lemberanski that I won’t open the door to my apartment, if policemen would not go away, and only the equal number of persons from both sides will enter the apartment. If five workers of Office of Public Prosecutors will be present at the search, then two independent journalists and our three lawyers will be present as witnesses as well. At the same time, Lemberanski did not provide me with a search warrant. But I did not have any strength to resist. As was mentioned above ten persons entered the apartment. Only here the search warrant was shown.

From 17:00 to 19:40 the search of my apartment at the address Nizami str. 53 was conducted. Azad Isazade’s computer was taken, as well as the business card of some Armenian historian, the collection of the articles of Organizations of Liberation of Karabakh. My sufferings have not finished hereon.

Around 20:00 we arrived to our flat at the address Nariman Narimanov ave. 125, apt.4. Here they began exposed me to humiliation again. Once more in the building there were about 40 policemen and civilians, as I understood the workers of Ministry of National Security. Only after long arguments, we managed to achieve that as it was during the search in the flat at the address Nizami 53 apt 30 from both sides five persons will enter the apartment.

At 09:00 o’clock the search started in the apartment at the address Nariman Narimanov ave. 125, which continued till 23:40.The copy of identity card of Rauf Mirkadirov and old bankcards were taken from our apartment.

Although my lawyers and trustees signed both search protocols, and wrote their comments regarding search, we were not provided with possibility to make the copy of the protocol. Thus, I was held in custody almost for 26 hours without a break, at the same time I was exposed to inhuman treatment, that humiliated my honor and dignity and undermined my health.

All this time I did not have any information regarding the condition of my husband, who was placed in reanimation.

I am attaching video to this text, regarding what was going on:

Search in the office

<http://youtu.be/m3AXca7gcQk>

Night search

<http://youtu.be/6jTL9Zo00Cc>

Conflict with the chief of police

<http://youtu.be/DAcuJ2I89ZY>

Police of impudence

<http://youtu.be/H4kcubKN0Cc>

Dr. Leyla Yunus

Chevalier of the French Legion of Honour

Winner of the International Theodor-Haecker-Prize

Director of the Institute for Peace and Democracy

Baku, 02 May 2014

**May 5, 2015: Leyla Yunusova receives the renowned Theodor Haecker Award**

