

**General Assembly
Security Council**

Distr.: General
14 April 2025

Original: English

General Assembly
Seventy-ninth session
Agenda items 32, 70 and 107

Security Council
Eightieth year

Prevention of armed conflict

Right of peoples to self-determination

Crime prevention and criminal justice

**Letter dated 11 April 2025 from the Permanent Representative of
the Russian Federation to the United Nations addressed to the
Secretary-General, the President of the General Assembly and the
President of the Security Council**

I would like to draw your attention to a letter dated 2 April 2025 from the Head of the Gagauz autonomy and a leader of the Gagauz ethnic minority, Evghenia Guțul, on the persecution that she faces on political grounds by the Moldova authorities (see annex). We believe that in the light of the discussion of this matter that we initiated in the Security Council on 27 March 2025, her appeal deserves to be heard by the States Members of the United Nations.

I therefore would be grateful if this communication and its annex could be circulated as a document of the General Assembly under agenda items 32, 70 and 107, and of the Security Council.

(Signed) Vassily Nebenzia



Annex to the letter dated 11 April 2025 from the Permanent Representative of the Russian Federation to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General, the President of the General Assembly and the President of the Security Council

Appeal from the Head (Başkan) of Gagauzia, Evghenia Guțul, to the 9th Secretary-General of the United Nations, H.E. António Manuel de Oliveira Guterres

Mr. Secretary-General,

The United Nations has long stood in defense of peace, human rights, and the dignity of every people. Gagauzia, as a small autonomous region, shares these fundamental principles, and today I address you with an urgent request to support our people in their struggle to preserve the rights promised to us.

Thirty years ago, Gagauzia entered into an agreement with the Moldovan authorities that guaranteed our right to self-governance and the preservation of our culture – a pact enshrined both in national legislation and in the Constitution of Moldova. This agreement served as a model of peaceful coexistence, resolving a civil conflict through dialogue. However, despite these guarantees, our autonomy is now being systematically dismantled, and those who defend it are subjected to persecution.

I am writing to you now from Prison № 13 in Chişinău, where I am being held on fabricated political charges. My case is not merely a matter of personal persecution – it is an attack on the fate of an entire people. Under the pretext of fighting corruption, the Moldovan authorities are suppressing opposition and ignoring the very democratic principles they claim to uphold. The rule of law has been replaced by intimidation, and any expression of independent thought is met with harsh repression.

The criminal case against me is not just an attack on an individual politician but a deliberate attempt to deprive Gagauzia of its democratically elected leadership. The judicial system is being used as a tool to eliminate the Bashkan, weaken the institution of autonomy, and ultimately dismantle it entirely.

This is not merely a legal proceeding – it is a calculated political maneuver aimed at silencing an entire region. The Moldovan authorities act with impunity, confident that their actions will not encounter resistance on the international stage. However, the right to self-governance is not a privilege that can be revoked at someone's whim; it is a fundamental principle that must be protected.

The role of the United Nations in defending human rights and maintaining international peace is of paramount importance. The Organization is not only tasked with responding to blatant violations of international law, but also with fostering dialogue between states, supporting vulnerable peoples, and ensuring adherence to the principles enshrined in the UN Charter. Your organization possesses unique mechanisms for monitoring, conflict prevention, and mobilizing the international community, which makes it an indispensable guarantor of peace and justice worldwide.

I address you as the foremost defender of human rights on the international stage, urging you to pay close attention to the situation in Gagauzia. We ask that the UN insist on the observance of the agreements reached, cease the political repression, and ensure that small nations and autonomous regions have the opportunity to be heard. I implore you not to remain indifferent to our plight, but to stand firmly with our people so that the truth is spoken and those courageous enough to oppose injustice come to the defense of Gagauzia. Your support will serve as an important signal to

the world that the rights to self-governance and democratic principles are upheld and that the UN is ready to intervene wherever these fundamental values are under threat.

Sincerely,

Evglenia Guțul
Head (Başkan) of the ATM Gagauzia

(From Prison № 13, Chişinău, recognized by international organizations as a facility with inhumane detention conditions and intended for murderers and rapists)
