



# Invitation to a seminar "Reform of the INTERPOL: Don't let it be stopped halfway" - OSCE HDIM 2017

**Recent abuses of INTERPOL by non-democratic states**, such as the Red Notice issued by Turkey to detain a German writer in Spain, Mr Doğan Akhanlı and other relevant cases in Russia, Moldova, Kazakhstan and Azerbaijan, **show why the reforms introduced by INTERPOL last autumn should be implemented decisively and without delay.**

The adoption of the report "[Abusive use of the INTERPOL system: the need for more stringent legal safeguards](#)" by the **Parliamentary Assembly of the Council of Europe** (PACE) represents an important support for those civil society organisations, such as the [Open Dialog Foundation](#), which followed the reformation process closely and now call for further improvements of the joint efforts achieved so far.

Therefore, the Open Dialog Foundation, in partnership with [Destination Justice](#), would like to kindly invite you to the seminar "**Reform of the INTERPOL, don't let it be stopped halfway**", which will be held in **Warsaw** on **Friday 15 2017, from 13.15 to 14.45 pm**, at the premises of the **National Stadium** (PGE Narodowy), **Room 3**, on the occasion of the **OSCE HDIM 2017**.

During the event, **the Open Dialog Foundation will present its assessment of the reforming process and a list of 16 recommendations contained in the new report** (available [HERE](#)), that will enable to move it towards addressing the most present challenges and practices adopted by the authoritarian governments.

**Particular attention will be given to the victims of Red Notice abuse from Turkey, Kazakhstan, Russia, Azerbaijan and Moldova.** The discussion will focus, inter alia, on: **a)** ensuring the independence and integrity of the Commission for the Control of Interpol's Files; **b)** taking actions against persecution of entire families; **c)** creation of a compensation fund for the victims of misuse of INTERPOL; **d)** stressing on the preemptive approach to avoid persecution of persons who risk being enlisted for political reasons; **e)** as well as developing answers to practice of targeting people residing in unsafe third countries.

Among the confirmed speakers, who will present their testimonies and expertise, there are:

- [Mrs Ana Ursachi](#) (#NuMaTem), an exiled Moldovan lawyer and human rights defender, founder of the civic movement #NuMaTem ('I am not afraid');
- [Mrs Jamilya Aimbetova-Tokmadi](#), wife of Mr Muratkhan Tokmadi, a Kazakh businessman held in the detention facility of the National Security Committee of Kazakhstan, pressured to provide forced testimonies against the dissidents;
- [Mrs Lyudmyla Kozlovska](#) (Open Dialog Foundation), President of the Open Dialog Foundation, Polish NGO advocating for victims of misuse of the Interpol's system;
- Mr Marcin Swiecicki, member of the Polish Parliament.

Also, messages from a number of victims of INTERPOL's abuse who due to their legal situation or location cannot travel, will be presented. Those include:

- [Mr Akhmed Zakaev](#), former Deputy Prime Minister and Prime Minister of the unrecognised Chechen Republic of Ichkeria, granted political asylum in the UK;
- [Mr Anatoliy Pogorelov](#), Kazakhstan, former BTA Bank employee, at risk of extradition from the United Arab Emirates;
- [Mr Yan Andreyev](#), the former head of the Tutaev district of the Yaroslavl region (Russia);
- [Mrs Leila Khrapunova](#), whose family members are subject to extradition requests due to public support provided to the family of Mukhtar Ablyazov, a prominent dissident;
- [Mrs Leyla Yunus](#), the most prominent Azerbaijani human rights defender, political refugee;
- [Mrs Silvia Palomba](#) (Destination Justice), Director of Destination Justice, human rights NGO.

More information on the Human Dimension Implementation Meeting of OSCE 2017, side events and agenda could be found here: [http://www.osce.org/odihr/hdim\\_2017](http://www.osce.org/odihr/hdim_2017).