

**CAW  TCA**  
**CANADA**

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**KEN LEWENZA**  
National President  
Président national

**JEAN-PIERRE FORTIN**  
Quebec Director  
Directeur québécois

**JIM O'NEIL**  
National Secretary-Treasurer  
Secrétaire-trésorier national

205 PLACER COURT, TORONTO, ONTARIO M2H 3H9  
PHONE (416) 497-4110 FAX (416) 495-6559

November 20, 2008

Sent by Fax: 011-7-812-542-0015

Mr. Romanyuk V. Sergey  
Public Prosecutor of Leningrad Region  
194044, r. Saint-Petersburg,  
av. Lesnoy, d. 20, kor. 12  
RUSSIA

MM	FL	RJ	HK	AM	RS	JH	RB
<b>R</b> 21 NOV. 2008						MP	AG
No. 7437				SM	CC	MS	News X

Dear Public Prosecutor,

*Secretariat*  
X

**Re: Human and Trade Union Rights Violations in Russia**

The Canadian Auto Workers Union (CAW-Canada) representing the collective interests of 215,000 members in Canada expresses grave concern with the failure to meet legal obligations of the Russian law enforcement authorities and the indifference of the Russian authorities in general regarding the increasing threats, assaults and battery of union leaders and activists, appealing for respect of the fundamental right of workers to organize and form unions.

The attacks and threats to trade union leaders and activists in recent months were alarming. The authorities' indifference to violations of fundamental human and labour rights and the failure to act promptly and effectively to ensure these rights are fully upheld and protected against any such attack is of grave concern to us.

We urge you to apply all your efforts in order to carry out an immediate, unbiased and transparent investigation into the facts of attacks against trade union leaders Alexei Etmanov, Alexei Gramm and Sergei Bryzgalov, as well as the death threats made to Vladimir Lesik.

With other organizations around the world we will be monitoring the situation closely to ensure the government fulfils international commitments to uphold and enforce respect for trade union rights.

Sincerely,

*Ken Lewenza*

**KEN LEWENZA**  
National President  
CAW-Canada  
kl:al:dbcope343



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205 PLACER COURT, TORONTO, ONTARIO M2H 3H9  
PHONE (416) 497-4110 FAX (416) 495-6559

November 20, 2008

Sent by Fax: 011-7-495-692-9600

Mr. Chaika Y. Yuriy  
General Public Prosecutor of Russian Federation  
125993, Moscow, GSP-3, B. Dimitrovka, Building 15a  
RUSSIA

Dear General Public Prosecutor,

**Re: Human and Trade Union Rights Violations in Russia**

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The Canadian Auto Workers Union (CAW-Canada) representing the collective interests of 215,000 members in Canada expresses grave concern with the failure to meet legal obligations of the Russian law enforcement authorities and the indifference of the Russian authorities in general regarding the increasing threats, assaults and battery of union leaders and activists, appealing for respect of the fundamental right of workers to organize and form unions.

The attacks and threats to trade union leaders and activists in recent months were alarming. The authorities' indifference to violations of fundamental human and labour rights and the failure to act promptly and effectively to ensure these rights are fully upheld and protected against any such attack is of grave concern to us.

This is why we urge you to apply all your efforts in order to carry out an immediate, unbiased and transparent investigation into the facts of attacks against trade union leaders Alexei Etmanov, Alexei Gramm and Sergei Bryzgalov, as well as the death threats made to Vladimir Lesik.

Sincerely,



KEN LEWENZA  
National President  
CAW-Canada  
kl:al:dbcpe343





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205 PLACER COURT, TORONTO, ONTARIO M2H 3H9  
PHONE (416) 497-4110 FAX (416) 495-6559

November 20, 2008

Sent by Fax: 011-7-495-628-0948

Ms. Golikova A. Tatiana  
Minister of Health Care and Social Development  
127994, GSP-4, Moscow, per. Rahmanovskiy, 3  
RUSSIA

Dear Minister,

**Re: Human and Trade Union Rights Violations in Russia**

The Canadian Auto Workers Union (CAW-Canada) representing the collective interests of 215,000 members in Canada expresses grave concern with the failure to meet legal obligations of the Russian law enforcement authorities. As well, the indifference of the Russian authorities in general regarding the increasing threats, assaults and battery of union leaders and activists, appealing for respect of the fundamental right of workers to organize and form unions is disturbing.

CAW-Canada was deeply alarmed about the attacks and threats to trade union leaders and activists in recent months. We are disappointed with the authorities' unresponsiveness to violations of fundamental human and labour rights and the failure to act promptly and effectively to ensure these rights are fully upheld and protected against any such attack.

ILO Conventions 87 "On Freedom of Association" and 98 "On the Right to Organize and Collective Bargaining" are both fundamental rights that have been ratified by Russia and we urge you to apply all your efforts in order to ensure full compliance by all employers. Your intervention in the case at OAO "TagAZ" to ensure that the management immediately provides the workers with requested information and recognizes the ITUA primary trade union organization is encouraged.

With other organizations around the world we will be monitoring the situation closely to ensure the government fulfils international commitments to uphold and respect trade union rights.

Sincerely,

KEN LEWENZA  
National President  
CAW-Canada  
kl:al:dbcope343





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205 PLACER COURT, TORONTO, ONTARIO M2H 3H9  
PHONE (416) 497-4110 FAX (416) 495-8559

November 20, 2008

Sent by Fax: 011-7-863-262-4525

Mr. Kuznetsov A. Valeriy  
Public Prosecutor of Rostov Region  
344082, Rostov Region  
Rostov-na-Donu, per. Bratskiy, 11  
RUSSIA

Dear Public Prosecutor,

**Re: Human and Trade Union Rights Violations in Russia**

The Canadian Auto Workers Union (CAW-Canada) representing the collective interests of 215,000 members in Canada expresses grave concern with the failure to meet legal obligations of the Russian law enforcement authorities and the indifference of the Russian authorities in general regarding the increasing threats, assaults and battery of union leaders and activists, appealing for respect of the fundamental right of workers to organize and form unions.

The attacks and threats to trade union leaders and activists in recent months were alarming. The authorities' indifference to violations of fundamental human and labour rights and the failure to act promptly and effectively to ensure these rights are fully upheld and protected against any such attack is of grave concern to us.

We urge you to apply all your efforts in order to carry out an immediate, unbiased and transparent investigation into the facts of attacks against trade union leaders Alexei Etmanov, Alexei Gramm and Sergei Bryzgalov, as well as the death threats made to Vladimir Lesik.

With other organizations around the world we will be monitoring the situation closely to ensure the government fulfils international commitments to uphold and enforce respect for trade union rights.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads 'Ken Lewenza'.

KEN LEWENZA  
National President  
CAW-Canada  
kl:al:dbcope343





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205 PLACER COURT, TORONTO, ONTARIO M2H 3H9  
PHONE (416) 497-4110 FAX (416) 495-6559

November 20, 2008

Sent by Fax: 011-7-863-431-8157 / e-mail: [info@tagaz.ru](mailto:info@tagaz.ru)

Alexei Fyodorovich Roskolod'ko  
TagAZ Deputy Director General  
Director, Taganrog branch  
2, Instrumental'naya Street,  
Taganrog, Rostov Region, 347923, Russia

**Re: Mass Violations of Workers' Rights and Attacks on TagAZ Trade Union Activists**

Dear Mr. Roskolod'ko,

On behalf of the Canadian Auto Workers Union, representing over 215,000 members across Canada, I am writing to express my disappointment upon receiving information on blatant facts of pressure brought by the administration of the TagAZ company on leaders and members of the local trade union and attacks on activists of this local trade union organization affiliated to the Russian Interregional Union of Autoworkers.

We learned that ever since October 25, 2007, when the organization notified the plant administration of setting up a local trade union - the union members and leadership came under pressure brought to bear on them by the employer. As well, in contravention of the existing legislation and international standards ratified by the Russian Federation (ILO Conventions No.87 and No.98) the plant administration would not recognize the local trade union organization set up by workers.

After that demonstration of disrespect for workers' and trade union rights it comes as no surprise that throughout 2008, the local union activists staged protest actions and picketing at the plant entrance calling on employer representatives to accept workers' demands; the representatives rejected them referring to the fact that they had no powers to do so or any desire to talk with local trade union representatives.

The CAW requests you as the plant director to show good will and take specific steps to recognize the local trade union organization, put an end to persecution for being trade union members and express your willingness for a civilized social dialogue. We also insist to reinstate A. Gramm, fired in contravention of the Article 374 of the Russian Labour Code.

.../2



We look forward to receiving news of your prompt response and restoration of infringed standards of the Russian legislation.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Ken Lewenza". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

**KEN LEWENZA**  
National President  
CAW-Canada  
kl:al:dbcope343