

Brussels, 04 July 2014 140704/01

STATEMENT

by the Spokesperson on the arrest in Georgia of suspended Mayor of Tbilisi,

Gigi Ugulava

"We are following closely the arrest of Mr Gigi Ugulava at Tbilisi airport on 3 July. We note that Mr Ugulava, previously suspended as Mayor of Tbilisi, is the opposition's chief campaign organiser during the ongoing municipal elections in Georgia. We recall Prime Minister Gharibashvili's announcement on 14 April of a moratorium on the arrest and prosecution of opposition figures during this election period.

We call once more upon the Georgian authorities to ensure that the judicial process is fully independent, transparent, and free of political influence, in line with the commitments undertaken by Georgia when it signed the Association Agreement with the European Union last week on 27 June 2014."

FOR FURTHER DETAILS: