

Brussels, 17 July 2014 140717/04

STATEMENT

by the Spokespersons on the sentencing of Hasan Huseynli in Azerbaijan

"We have learned with concern that Hasan Huseynli, leader of a respected NGO in Azerbaijan, has been harshly sentenced to a lengthy prison term by the Ganja Court on 14 July 2014 on alleged charges of 'hooliganism'.

This sentence is part of a disturbing trend and we underline that we expect Azerbaijan to act in line with its responsibility as the current chair of the Council of Europe's Committee of Ministers and to honour the obligations and commitments to which it has subscribed as a Member of the Council of Europe."