Comment on the release of Oleg Horjan



The Reintegration Policies Bureau welcomes the release from detention of Oleg Horjan. For several years, the ‘Horjan case’ has been in the sights of the Bureau, and the subject has been raised frequently in negotiations at the level of political representatives, during the Working Groups meetings on human rights. On this occasion, we also express our gratitude to the OSCE Mission to the Republic of Moldova, which has always reacted to the Bureau's requests on the case.

Freedom of opinion, which has been evoked lately by the negotiating team from Tiraspol, is a right that all citizens have - including Oleg Horjan, Vadim Pogorletsky, Victor Pleskanov, Sergei Shishkov and others, who continue to be illegally detained for ‘crime of opinion’ in places of imprisonment on the left bank of the Nistru river and in Bender. The Bureau reaffirms its determination to intervene with all possible forms of assistance to obtain the release from illegal detention of all those who remain there, either because they have advocated the territorial integrity of the Republic of Moldova, condemned the Russian Federation's aggression against Ukraine, or expressed other views that contradict the position of the decision-makers from Tiraspol.

The issue of human rights can in no way be overshadowed by other subjects on the agenda of the negotiations between Chisinau and Tiraspol, it remains an absolute priority for Chisinau and we are counting on the OSCE Mission to remain just as responsive on this file, including the individual cases to which we have referred so many times over the past year.

