



Political Prisoners in Azerbaijan

PROFILE: RASUL JAFAROV



Detained: August 2014

*Active Member of EAP CSF Forum
Working Group I: Democracy, Human Rights,
Good Governance and Stability*

- Vocal Human Rights campaigner and government critic
- Founder of unregistered NGO **Human Rights Club**
- Launched “**Sing for Democracy**” & “**Art for Democracy**” Campaigns that exposed HR violations in Azerbaijan
- Led the effort of compiling the list of political prisoners in Azerbaijan - last updated on 10 August 2014

Eastern Partnership Civil Society Forum:

*“Imprisonment of prisoners of conscience and harassment of civil society is **a breach of international commitments of Azerbaijan**, which currently chairs the Committee of Ministers of the Council of Europe”*

Current situation:

- Held in three-month pre-trial detention
- Faces travel bans and frozen assets
- HR orgs. fear for his physical & psychological integrity

European Union External Action Service:

*“The arrest of Mr Jafarov, coming so soon after the arrest last week of Dr Leyla Yunus, adds to the impression that the **authorities are systematically restricting the space for public discourse and civil society** in Azerbaijan.”*

Fabricated Charges:

- Illegal enterprise, tax evasion

CIVIL SOCIETY FORUM calls for the IMMEDIATE RELEASE of Rasul Jafarov, arrested on fabricated charges following his campaign for the release of other political prisoners!