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8 August 2011

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Dear Madams:  
 Dear Sirs:

**Re: Politically Motivated Arrest of former Ukrainian Prime Minister Yulia Tymoshenko**

As previously raised with the international community by the Ukrainian World Congress (UWC) in its letters dated 12 January 2011 and 17 June 2011,<sup>1</sup> the UWC is gravely concerned about the continuing prosecutions of political opponents by Ukrainian government authorities. On 5 August 2011, the UWC denounced the politically motivated arrest of former Ukrainian Prime Minister Yulia Tymoshenko and called for her immediate release – *See at* <http://ukrainianworldcongress.com/news.php/news/582> .

The international community has already warned Ukrainian government authorities against the use of the state apparatus for political gain, such as attempting to remove Ukraine's leading opposition politician from the run-up to the 2012 Parliamentary elections. The UWC now calls upon you to maintain constant pressure on the Ukrainian government authorities and demand the immediate release of Ms. Yulia Tymoshenko.

The persistent disregard by Ukrainian government authorities of calls by the international community to cease the prosecutions of political opponents cannot stand. An unequivocal message needs to be conveyed that Ukrainian government authorities cannot chair the Committee of Ministers of the Council of Europe and the Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe while openly disrespecting fundamental European values; otherwise, the international community's criticism will continue to be ignored because it will be viewed merely as rhetoric.

The Ukrainian World Congress is an international coordinating body for Ukrainian communities in the diaspora representing the interests of over twenty (20) million Ukrainians, with member organizations in over thirty (30) countries. Founded in 1967, the Ukrainian World Congress was incorporated in 2000 in Canada and recognized in 2003 as a non-governmental organization by the United Nations Economic and Social Council with special consultative status.

Sincerely,

UKRAINIAN WORLD CONGRESS

Eugene Czolij  
 President

Encl.

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<sup>1</sup> See enclosed UWC letters

c.c. His Excellency Viktor Yanukovich, President of Ukraine  
The Honourable Nina Karpachova, Ukrainian Parliament Commissioner for Human Rights  
Ukrainian World Congress Member Organizations