

URGENT ACTION

GRAVELY ILL DETAINEE SENTENCED TO 7 YEARS IN JAIL

A court sentenced Moldovan businessman Serghei Cosovan to 7 years in jail, disregarding his grave health condition and his inability to access essential medical care in detention for his cirrhosis.

On 16 July, a court in Chisnau, Moldova, sentenced businessman **Serghei Cosovan** to 7 years in jail on fraud charges. While in detention, Serghei Cosovan's pre-existing cirrhosis (scarring of the liver) worsened, resulting in repeated haemorrhages, which require surgery to be stopped. He also developed a hernia. Both conditions require specialised medical treatment not available in Penitentiary Institution number 16. The court however disregarded his grave health condition and the urgent medical treatment he requires. Authorities have not yet responded to numerous requests from local and international human rights organisations, including Amnesty International, to provide Serghei Cosovan with effective medical treatment or to transfer him to a specialised institution or civil hospital, in accordance with the Mandela Rules. He had been in pre-trial detention since 26 September 2017.

Amnesty International remains deeply concerned about the standard of health care provided at Penitentiary Institution number 16's hospital, which is not equipped to provide essential care for Serghei Cosovan's health condition. For example, during his initial detention, he had to be transported by ambulance at least three times to an external medical facility for emergency surgery to treat his cirrhosis, which can lead to extensive internal bleeding. Following each surgery, the medical professionals that performed it recommended that Serghei Cosovan not be in detention, be admitted to a specialised hospital, and be constantly monitored by specialists as his cirrhosis has entered its final stage and is life-threatening.

Amnesty International will continue to monitor the case closely and will be pursuing other strategic venues to urge the authorities to ensure Serghei Cosovan has access to timely and adequate health care, including transfer to an external specialised hospital deemed necessary by health professionals.

Thank you to all those who sent appeals. No further action is requested from the UA network.

This is the first update of UA 111/18. Further information <https://www.amnesty.org/en/documents/eur59/8516/2018/en>

Name: Serghei Cosovan

Gender m/f: m

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