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<p>The Office of High Commissioner for Human Rights, Geneva Please circulate this to Working Group on Arbitrary Detention; it is also of relevance to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Special Rapporteur on the independence of judges</li><li>• Special Rapporteur on the promotion and protection of the right to freedom of opinion and expression</li><li>• Special Rapporteur on contemporary forms of racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and intolerance</li><li>• The Independent Expert on Minority Issues</li></ul> <p>CC Mr Dyke and Mrs. Harrison, Amnesty International, London Also: Human Rights Watch and Human Rights Server</p>	<p>Mr. Seid Mughanli</p>  <p>South Azerbaijani prisoner of conscience</p>

Dear sir/madam,

### COMMUNICATION 1 CAMPAIGNING FOR MR. MUGHANLI (MEHEMMEDI)

Please find enclosed Communication 1 for safeguarding human rights of Mr. Seid Mughanli, a Southern Azerbaijani cultural activist, who has been deprived of his liberty by Iranian authorities since 8 June 2011. His official surname is “Mehemmedi” (Mughanli is his penname, a name by which is known now). He is a journalist, scholar and a poet but now a prisoner of conscience.

Mr. Mughanli was arrested on 8 June 2011 in his parental house, when visiting his parents. He is now known to be in a detention unit in Tebriz and the pretext for this detention is apparently an insult to an unnamed leader in one of his poems. He has no access to a lawyer, he had made a single telephone call to his parents two weeks after his arrest but unable to inform his parents the reasons for his detention.

We would like to stress that in compiling this Communication, we have not consulted with Mr. Mughanli family or with a lawyer. Although our communication and your defence of him strengthen his ultimate safety, we make this statement to manage the risk of reprisal by the Iranian authorities against Southern Azerbaijani activists.

Mr. Mughanli is the managing director of well respected publication: *Yashmaq* ([www.yashmaq.blogfa.com](http://www.yashmaq.blogfa.com)) and deputy chief editor of *Yarpaq*; he was the chief editor of monthly literary journal of *Dilmaj*, which is now barred; he has contributed to numerous other journals and magazine, as well as to the publications of more than 200 Azerbaijani books. He has been arrested in the past 5 years several times, for a number of reasons including travelling to the republic of Azerbaijan.

We appeal to you to campaign for the restoration of human rights of Mr. Mughanli. We are confident that your campaign is the most effective way to ensure his safety and the restoration of his human rights. We thank you in advance for your campaign.

Yours faithfully,

Mr. Boyuk Resuloglu  
The Committee for the Defence of the Rights of World Azerbaijanis



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A poem from Seid Mughanli in English: <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=HjAm67TiN3Q>