



Ministry for Foreign Affairs
Director-General for Legal Affairs

Special Rapporteur on the
situation of human rights in
Belarus;
Special Rapporteur on the
promotion and protection of
opinion and expression;
Special Rapporteur on the human
rights of migrants;
Special Rapporteur on torture
and other cruel, inhuman or
degrading treatment or
punishment
Office of the High Commissioner
for Human Rights
United Nations
CH-1211 GENEVA 10
Switzerland

Communication from Special Procedures: Joint Urgent Appeal

Reference: UA SWE 1/2020

Madam and Sirs,

1. I have the honour to refer to your letter of 26 June 2020 in which the Swedish Government is invited to submit certain observations regarding the expulsion of an individual from Belarus who is currently staying in Sweden, where he has applied for asylum and a residence permit.
2. I would initially like to clarify that I intend, on behalf of the Government, to submit observations and respond to the questions put forward in your letter of 26 June 2020 at a later stage.
3. However, at this time, and in view of your possibly upcoming press release concerning this communication, I wish to make the following suggestion regarding the need for confidentiality of the identity of the individual concerned by your communication.

4. In cases concerning asylum seekers, the personal circumstances are generally of a sensitive nature. For that reason, much of the information regarding an asylum seeker's case is confidential under Swedish domestic law according to Chapter 21, Section 5 and Chapter 37, Section 1 of the Public Access to Information and Secrecy Act (*offentlighets- och sekretesslagen, 2009:400*). The case under reference is no exception.

5. Given that privacy or protection concerns require keeping the identity of the individual concerned confidential, the Government would kindly like to suggest the following. Firstly, that the individual should not be mentioned by his full name in any of your publications but rather by unrelated initials (such as X.X.) Secondly, that circumstances which may enable the public to identify him should not be disclosed. Proceeding in this manner would ensure the privacy of the individual and also facilitate the Government's observations on your appeal since information regarding the domestic case, in whole or in part, may be confidential under domestic law.

Please accept, Madam and Sirs, the assurances of my highest consideration.



Carl Magnus Nesser

Ambassador, Director-General for Legal Affairs