

Simonetta Sommaruga
Head of the Federal Department of Justice and Police
Federal Councillor
Federal Palace, West Wing
CH-3003 Berne

Dear Simonetta Sommaruga:

I'm _____, and I'm writing you about the case of Nekane Txapartegi Nieves, Basque citizen that was arrested in Zurich in April the 6th. I'm specifically addressing you because you are the highest representative of Justice Authority in the country, and Nekane is being kept incarcerated in Gefängnis Zürich prison.

Nekane is a member of the Basque pro-independence left movement and she has even represented this movement institutionally as a town councilor in Asteasu. Her political activism in left social movements has always been public and notorious. At least until she was arrested and brutally tortured by the Spanish State security forces because of her activism. She personally denounced being raped by 4 policemen in a trial that took place in the Audiencia Nacional, but the pressure and harassment continued and to avoid being tortured again she had to run away, to Switzerland this time, where she has been living with her daughter.

Right now she is being held in a prison in Zürich. While we are writing these lines her family hasn't been allowed to see her yet, but we are hoping that they would be able to do it soon.

With this letter my intention is to make a very concrete appeal. Bearing in mind the little democratic trust that Spain deserves regarding human rights, we would like to ask you **not to allow Nekane Txapartegi's extradition to Spain**, since the risk of torture is real and the data that we provide proves it. Asked by the Basque Government, Paco Etxeberria, Forensic Doctor of the University of the Basque Country, has made a recent investigation about torture (An investigation project about torture in Euskadi between 1960-2010). Here he attests and investigates 4117 cases, all victims of torture, Nekane is part of this investigation that Paco Etxeberria and his team are leading.

That is the foundation upon which they want to build Nekane Txapartegi's extradition. Therefore we have put all these arguments forward, to implore you to do everything on your hands and stop this process against Nekane.

Since the risk of torture would loom over our heads again, we beg you not to allow the extradition of Nekane Txapartegi Nieves to Spain.

Thank you,

In _____

___/___/2016