

25th November 2005

University of Malta

Dear Mr. Vladimir Nikolaevich Shimov

KSU – Kunsill Studenti Universitarji strongly condemns the fact that Ms. Taciana Khoma is threatened by expulsion by yourself and / or your staff. KSU believes that this is a violation of human rights especially Article 19 of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights adopted by United Nations that explains that everyone has the right to freedom of opinion and expression; this right includes freedom to hold opinions without interference and to seek, receive and impart information and ideas through any media and regardless of frontiers. We strongly voice our opinion that Ms. Khoma should remain a student at BSEU, having excellent grades overall we do not see any valid reason for her expulsion.

Should the situation remain the same, we will use all our contacts with our government, rector of our university, members of the European parliament to inform them about the current state at a university in Belarus and urge them to investigate the matter and take appropriate action. We believe that such intervention into the democratic administration of a higher education institution cannot but have a heavy impact on its transparency and accountability as well as its image on a European level.

We therefore appeal to you, the Rector of BSEU, to allow Ms Khoma to continue her studies without any further harassment from the administration at BSEU and allow her to take her rightful and well-deserved place within the unions of students in Europe where she could make her university and country proud, if let do so.

Regards,

Damian Kovac

International Officer

KSU