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STATEMENT

**by EU High Representative Catherine Ashton
on the case of Dmytro Bulatov**

The High Representative of the European Union for Foreign Affairs and Security Policy and Vice President of the Commission, issued the following statement today:

"I am appalled by the obvious signs of prolonged torture and cruel treatment of Auto-Maidan organiser Dmytro Bulatov, who was found alive yesterday after having been missing for a week. Others, like Maidan protester Yuriy Verbytskyi who was found dead on 22 January, have paid with their lives for exercising their civil rights.

These are but two cases of the continuous deliberate targeting of organisers and participants of peaceful protests.

All such acts are unacceptable and must immediately be stopped. It is the authorities' responsibility to take all necessary measures to address the current atmosphere of intimidation and impunity which allows for such acts to take place. All unlawfully detained people have to be released and perpetrators brought to justice."

FOR FURTHER DETAILS:

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