



Inter-Parliamentary Union
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Kyrgyzstan

Decision adopted unanimously by the IPU Governing Council at its 217th session (Istanbul, 19 April 2026)



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KGZ-02 – Adakhan Madumarov

Alleged human rights violations

- ✓ Torture, ill-treatment and other acts of violence
- ✓ Arbitrary arrest and detention
- ✓ Inhumane conditions of detention
- ✓ Lack of due process in proceedings against parliamentarians
- ✓ Violation of freedom of opinion and expression
- ✓ Failure to respect parliamentary immunity

A. Summary of the case

Mr. Adakhan Kumsanbayevich Madumarov was a seasoned parliamentarian and former Speaker of the Kyrgyz Parliament, the *Jogorku Kenesh* (Supreme Council). Mr. Madumarov was the main challenger to interim President Sadyr Japarov in the disputed 2021 presidential elections and is also the leader of *Butun Kyrgyzstan* (United Kyrgyzstan), which was one of the largest opposition parties in Parliament at that time.

According to the complainant, on 2 September 2023, as Mr. Madumarov was out on a stroll with his then 13-year-old son, they were both arrested by a *Spetsnaz* (special forces) unit led by agents of the Interior Ministry. His son was later released and the parliamentarian transferred to the Bishkek Pervomaysky District Court, where he was charged with high treason and ordered to be held in pretrial detention in a State Committee on National Security (GKNB) remand prison. The complainant stresses that Mr. Madumarov remained in prison for over six months with no possibility of carrying out his mandate, as every appeal for his release was rejected without justification. In addition, the complainant claims that Mr. Madumarov faced mistreatment and inhumane conditions of detention while being detained

Case KGZ-02

Kyrgyzstan: Parliament affiliated to the IPU

Victim: Opposition Member of Parliament

Qualified complainant(s): Section I.1(a) of the Committee Procedure (Annex I)

Submission of complaint: January 2024

Recent IPU decision: April 2025

IPU mission(s): - - -

Recent Committee hearing: Hearing with the authorities during the 148th IPU Assembly (March 2024)

Recent follow-up:

- Communication from the authorities: March 2025
- Communication from the complainant: December 2025
- Communication to the authorities: December 2025
- Communication to the complainant: December 2025

in violation of applicable legal norms. The complainant adds that the arrest violated Mr. Madumarov's parliamentary immunity, as in March 2022, Parliament had rejected the Prosecutor General's initial request to lift Mr. Madumarov's immunity. The complainant shares that, following a new request in June 2023, parliamentarians rejected charges related to preparing mass riots and attempting to seize power but allowed the abuse of power case against Mr. Madumarov to go ahead. However, the complainant stresses that the fact that the authorities subsequently upgraded the abuse of power charge to the charge of high treason was never explained. The complainant adds that the authorities later introduced fraud charges related to a 2015 electoral donation supported by questionable evidence. Parliament's approval to prosecute in the fraud charge case was reportedly never sought. According to the complainant, the Pervomaysky District Court further violated Mr. Madumarov's rights by extending his custody and declaring the proceedings a closed trial. The complainant highlights the arbitrary classification of the case as "secret", imposing a non-disclosure obligation on Mr. Madumarov's lawyers and undermining their ability to defend their client. The then GKNB Chairperson Kamchybek Tashiev has also made statements that seem to presume Mr. Madumarov's guilt.

According to the complainant, the charge of high treason against Mr. Madumarov is linked to his participation in a bilateral meeting with Tajikistan in March 2009, where he was sent, together with a larger delegation, as Secretary of the Security Council to discuss long-standing issues related to the un-demarcated border between the two countries. The complainant adds that Mr. Madumarov was acting on instructions from the Head of State at the time when he co-signed the minutes of the meeting, where the idea of a land swap was flagged.

The complainant stresses that the detention of Mr. Madumarov violated due process, which they see as a punishment for his criticism of the authorities, including his opposition to a recent controversial land swap deal with Uzbekistan, and an attempt to stamp out opposition in Parliament. Statements from his party describe a campaign of "unthinkable threats, psychological pressure and criminal prosecution" following the 2020 elections and the subsequent political upheaval. Regarding Mr. Madumarov specifically, the statement reads that there is "no doubt that the protocol [minutes] of 2009 is just a pretext for the total destruction of our party and our leader".

During the 148th IPU Assembly in March 2024, the IPU Committee on the Human Rights of Parliamentarians met with representatives of the Kyrgyz Government, who responded to its questions related to the case. In particular, they elaborated on the sensitive nature of the border dispute with Tajikistan following an armed attack by Tajik armed forces in September 2022, which had caused 64 casualties and 250,000 internally displaced persons. According to the authorities, the seriousness of this matter had led the presiding judge to conduct the trial in secret. As a result, much of the information sought by the Committee could not be made available.

On 26 March 2024, the complainant shared that Mr. Madumarov was found guilty but received no prison sentence, as the statute of limitations had expired. The complainant reports that Mr. Madumarov had to remain in detention until the proceedings were concluded, which is apparently unlawful. As Mr. Madumarov had not appealed the court decision by 26 April 2024, it entered into force, and he was released from the GKNB prison. On the same day, the Central Electoral Commission terminated his parliamentary mandate in line with Article 79 of the Constitution, which holds that a parliamentarian is to be recalled following the entry into legal force of a court verdict against them. Addressing a crowd of supporters who came to greet him upon his release, Mr. Madumarov declared that "all this happened due to my mandate ... Everything that happened over the [last] months brought shame to Kyrgyzstan in front of the entire world". In a letter dated March 2025, the parliamentary authorities of Kyrgyzstan stressed that the trial had followed due process, and that Mr. Madumarov had chosen not to appeal, whereas the decision to terminate his mandate did not fall within the competence of Parliament. According to the authorities, due process had been followed in keeping with the law.

On 13 March 2025, the Heads of State of Kyrgyzstan and Tajikistan signed an agreement demarcating their shared border in Bishkek, putting an end to their long-standing border dispute. Both Presidents hailed the agreement as historic. Snap elections were held on 30 November 2025 under new rules resulting in a Parliament with virtually no members of opposition parties. According to the complainant, Mr. Madumarov was not allowed to take part in the elections due to the verdict of 26 March 2024; other candidates were also prevented from taking part in the elections due to past sentences or a wave of arrests that occurred on 22 November 2025, which included the arrest of members of the Social Democrats party. According to the complainant, Mr. Madumarov was taken

from his home and interrogated by law enforcement in connection with this wave of arrests, without a warrant or any charges brought against him. The European Parliament adopted a Resolution urging the authorities to halt the persecution of members of that party and other opposition members in December 2024.

B. Decision

The Governing Council of the Inter-Parliamentary Union

1. *Regrets* that the delegation of Kyrgyzstan was not able to meet with the IPU Committee on the Human Rights of Parliamentarians in the course of the 152nd Assembly; *recalls* in this regard that, in line with its Rules and Practices, the Committee is doing its utmost to promote dialogue with the authorities of the country in question, particularly its Parliament, to settle the cases at hand in a satisfactory manner; and *hopes* that such a meeting with the parliamentary authorities will take place at a future IPU Assembly to discuss this case further;
2. *Deplores* that Mr. Madumarov was not allowed to take part in the legislative elections of November 2025; *regrets* that the outgoing Parliament failed to ensure that Mr. Madumarov is able to exercise his political rights by reviewing and aligning its domestic norms with international standards as urged by the Governing Council in its decision of 9 April 2025; and *requests* the Committee on the Human Rights of Parliamentarians to continue monitoring the situation of Mr. Madumarov, including with regard to respect for his right to freely take part in future legislative elections;
3. *Strongly believes* that the newly-elected Parliament bears a responsibility to review its domestic norms to ensure their compatibility with international standards in order to prevent the recurrence of such cases and to guarantee that the rights and mandate of parliamentarians are respected, which is a key condition for preserving the independence of parliament;
4. *Recalls* that the IPU Committee on the Human Rights of Parliamentarians has consistently expressed its concern in all cases where parliamentarians lose their mandate as a result of laws which foresee a low threshold for such a serious penalty; *considers* that the protection of the mandate of parliamentarians is of the utmost importance and that the loss of the mandate of a parliamentarian elected by the people must be reserved for exceptional circumstances in compliance with the general principle of the free representational mandate, failing which the independence and capacity of parliament to play its role as an institution would be compromised;
5. *Strongly regrets* that Mr. Madumarov remained in arbitrary detention for over six months without bail as a result of criminal proceedings that far exceeded the statute of limitations, even though his immunity had not been lifted by Parliament for the charges he faced; *remains concerned* that the trial was conducted in secret and that the then GKNB Chairperson made statements that seemed to presume the guilt of Mr. Madumarov soon after his arrest, in violation of the right to be presumed innocent until proven guilty; *believes* that the fact that he was only freed on the day his mandate was terminated as a result of the entry into force of a guilty verdict lends serious weight to the allegation made by the complainant that the proceedings initiated against Mr. Madumarov were politically motivated and that their purpose was to silence him and deprive him of his mandate; and *remains convinced* that Mr. Madumarov should never have been prosecuted in the first place, much less deprived of the parliamentary mandate bequeathed to him by the people;
6. *Is deeply concerned* that Mr. Madumarov was taken from his home and interrogated by law enforcement ahead of the November 2025 elections, without an explanation amidst a wave of arrests of members of the opposition; and *wishes* to receive information from the authorities on this point;
7. *Requests* the Secretary General to convey this decision to the Speaker of the Kyrgyz Parliament (*Jogorku Kenesh*), the complainant and any third party likely to be in a position to supply relevant information;
8. *Requests* the Committee to continue examining the case and to report back to it in due course.