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Dear Prosecutor General,

The Belarusian activist Dzmitry Paliyenka is serving a two-year prison sentence for peacefully opposing restrictions on cyclists after being found guilty, in October 2016, of the trumped-up charges “violence or threat of violence against an employee of law enforcement agencies” and “production and distribution of pornographic materials or items of pornographic character”. Since his arrival in prison in April 2017, Amnesty International has received consistent reports that Dzmitry Paliyenka has been singled out by the prison authorities and subjected to harsh treatment.

Amnesty International considers Dzmitry Paliyenka a prisoner of conscience who must be immediately and unconditionally released.

I therefore urge you to release Dzmitry Paliyenka immediately and unconditionally, as he is imprisoned solely for the peaceful exercise of his rights to freedom of expression and assembly. Pending his release, please ensure that Dzmitry Paliyenka enjoys all safeguards as guaranteed in international law, such as having access to his family and a lawyer of his choice.

Yours sincerely,

Copy:

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