

109TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

S. RES. 295

Expressing the sense of the Senate on the arrest of Sanjar Umarov in
Uzbekistan.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

NOVEMBER 2, 2005

Mr. LUGAR (for himself, Mr. FRIST, and Mr. MCCAIN) submitted the
following resolution; which was considered and agreed to

RESOLUTION

Expressing the sense of the Senate on the arrest of Sanjar
Umarov in Uzbekistan.

Whereas the United States supports the development of de-
mocracy, free markets, and civil society in Uzbekistan
and in other states in Central Asia;

Whereas the rule of law, the impartial application of the law,
and equal justice for all courts of law are pillars of all
democratic societies;

Whereas Sanjar Umarov was reportedly arrested in
Tashkent, Uzbekistan, on October 22, 2005;

Whereas Sanjar Umarov is a businessman and leader of the
Uzbek opposition party, Sunshine Coalition;

Whereas Sanjar Umarov was reportedly taken into custody
on October 22, 2005, during a crackdown on the Sun-

shine Coalition that included a raid of its offices and seizure of its records;

Whereas Sanjar Umarov was reportedly charged with grand larceny;

Whereas press accounts report that representatives of Sanjar Umarov claim that Mr. Umarov was drugged and abused while at his pretrial confinement center in Tashkent, Uzbekistan, but such accounts could not be immediately confirmed, and official information about the health, whereabouts, and treatment while in custody of Mr. Umarov has thus far been unavailable;

Whereas the United States has expressed its serious concern regarding the overall state of human rights in Uzbekistan and is seeking to clarify the facts of this case;

Whereas the European Union (EU) and the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe (OSCE) have expressed concern about the arrest and possible abuse of Sanjar Umarov; and

Whereas the Government of Uzbekistan is party to various treaty obligations, and in particular those under the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, which obligate governments to provide for due process in criminal cases: Now, therefore, be it

1 *Resolved*, That it is the sense of the Senate that—

2 (1) the law enforcement and judicial authorities

3 of Uzbekistan should ensure that Sanjar Umarov is

4 accorded the full measure of his rights under the

5 Uzbekistan Constitution to defend himself against

6 any and all charges that may be brought against

1 him, in a fair and transparent process, so that indi-
2 vidual justice may be done;

3 (2) the Government of Uzbekistan should ob-
4 serve its various treaty obligations, especially those
5 under the International Covenant on Civil and Polit-
6 ical Rights, which obligate governments to provide
7 for due process in criminal cases; and

8 (3) the Government of Uzbekistan should pub-
9 licly clarify the charges against Sanjar Umarov, his
10 current condition, and his whereabouts.

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