

29 March 2024

Mr. Antony Blinken  
US Secretary of State

Dear Secretary Blinken:

We the undersigned faculty members at Duke University and the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill write to you to protest the Azerbaijani government's inhumane detention of Dr. Gubad Ibadoghlu. This day marks the 250<sup>th</sup> day that Dr. Ibadoghlu, a distinguished economist, colleague and past visitor to each of our universities, has been held in government detention without visits from the International Red Cross, with life-threatening denial of health care and with a continually postponed hearing in court of the charges brought against him. We call on all governments and international organizations to recognize this violation of human rights and to press the Azerbaijani government to release Dr. Ibadoghlu from detention, provide adequate health care and begin a transparent and fair court hearing of the charges filed by the government.

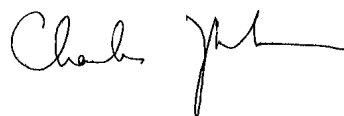
We each have different memories of Gubad Ibadoghlu when he taught classes, provided public lectures, and did research on our campuses. We know him to be a principled man with the goal that the revenues from Azerbaijani crude-oil sales be spent or invested in a transparent manner for the welfare of all people of Azerbaijan. We praise him for his work and we lament the suffering to which he has been subjected.

We have called upon the Azerbaijani government repeatedly to end this detention, but to no avail. On this day, so long after he was first forcibly separated from his family, we call on our national governments and the United Nations agencies to speak out for Dr. Ibadoghlu's human rights.

In solidarity with a fine scholar and citizen,



Patrick Conway  
Professor of Economics  
University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill



Charles Becker  
Research Professor of Economics  
Duke University

On behalf of the 20 faculty members at UNC-Chapel Hill and Duke University listed below.

**Signatories from Duke University and the University of North Carolina  
in Support of Dr. Gubad Ibadoghlu**

Edna Andrews  
Professor of Linguistics & Cultural Anthropology  
Nancy & Jeffrey Marcus Professor  
Chair, Linguistics Program  
Duke University

Charles M. Becker  
Research Professor of Economics  
Duke University

Chad C. Bryant  
Professor of History  
University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill

A. Craig Burnside  
Mary Grace Wilson Distinguished Professor of Economics  
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Patrick Conway  
Professor of Economics  
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Jeffrey DeSimone  
Professor of the Practice of Economics  
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Robert Jenkins  
Teaching Professor of Political Science  
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Timur Kuran  
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