



25 February 2021

Ministry for Foreign Affairs  
Minister for Foreign Affairs

Ms. Elena Filina  
Chairman of the Presidium of the AND  
Association of Independent Deputies

Dear Ms. Filina,

Thank you for your letter of 20 February, in which you pointed to recent events in Russia and the mass detention of protesters.

As Chairperson-in-Office of the OSCE, I follow closely events throughout our region and underline the need for all participating states to live up to their commitments in the human dimension. I can assure you that this will continue to be a priority for Sweden's OSCE Chairpersonship. As agreed at the Astana summit, lasting security cannot be achieved without respect for human rights.

Yours sincerely,

Ann Linde

Copy to:

OSCE Secretary General **Ms. Helga Schmid**

OSCE Office for Democratic Institutions and Human Rights Director **Mr.**

**Matteo Mecacci**

OSCE PA Director **Mr. Peter Lord Bowness**