



www.socialists.us

(202) 455-0510 - info@socialists.us – https://socialists.us

Statement on the detention of Socialist International Vice President from Kyrgyzstan, Temirlan Sultankegov

The Social Democrats of America, alongside the Permanent Conference of Political Parties of Latin America and the Caribbean, the Progressive Alliance, and the Socialist International, unequivocally condemn the detention of Socialist International Vice President and leader of the Social Democrats of Kyrgyzstan, Mr. Temirlan Sultanbekov, who has been targeted and pressured to withdraw his candidacy from the upcoming elections.

Mr. Sultanbekov's refusal to bow to this coercion led to his re-arrest, denial of fundamental rights guaranteed under Kyrgyz electoral law, and his detention without access to legal counsel. These actions are a flagrant violation of democratic norms and a direct assault on the principles of free and fair elections. Such oppressive measures against a prominent advocate for democracy are deeply alarming and expose the Kyrgyz authorities' escalating intolerance for political opposition.

The Social Democrats of America express their profound outrage and grave concern over this unjust detention of Mr. Sultanbekov, a fearless defender of democratic values and the youngest Vice-President within the Socialist International.

This assault on a respected leader amplifies our serious concerns over the deteriorating treatment of political opposition and the erosion of civil liberties in Kyrgyzstan. The Kyrgyz government's actions have reached an unacceptable threshold, casting doubt on its commitment to democratic integrity and international standards of human rights.

The Socialist International calls upon the Kyrgyz authorities to immediately fulfill their legal obligations, cease their oppressive practices, and ensure fair and dignified treatment for all political candidates.

We urge the international community—including the United States Congress, the OSCE, and other global democratic institutions—to take swift and decisive action in support of Mr. Sultanbekov's release and the protection of democratic rights in Kyrgyzstan. We cannot allow this repression to go unanswered.

We stand unwavering in solidarity with all those who fight for democracy, justice, and the rights of the Kyrgyz people.

###

We are Socialists; therefore, we believe in Free Education, Universal Health Care, Anti-Death Penalty, Pro-Abortion, Universal Basic Income, the Right to Unionize, the sanctity of the Separation of Church and State, and the belief that the Government should make life bearable for all and ensure citizens' Liberties.