**From: place, date:**

 **To:**
Ilham Aliyev
President of Azerbaijan
19 Istiqlaliyyat Street
Baku AZ1066
ASERBAIDSCHAN

 **Concerning the Detention of Human Rights Defender Elchin Mammad**

-- Please forward to President Ilham Aliyev --

Dear President,

I am writing to call for the immediate and unconditional release of prisoner of conscience, human rights lawyer and reporter Elchin Mammad. Police arrested Elchin Mammad in his house in the city of Sumgait on 30 March, a few days after he had published online a critical report on the human rights situation in Azerbaijan.

I urge you to:

* Take all necessary steps to ensure Elchin Mammad’s immediate and unconditional release and an end to his unfounded prosecution,
* Ensure that the ongoing abuse of the country’s criminal justice system for persecution of government critics stops.

Yours sincerely,