Aleksandr Lapshin, an Israeli-Russian travel blogger, was detained in Minsk, Belarus, on 15 December 2016, at the request from Azerbaijan and extradited to Baku on 7 February 2017.

Lapshin faces a maximum sentence of eight years in prison on charges of illegally crossing Azerbaijan's state borders during his April 2011, October 2012, and June 2016 visits to Nagorno-Karabakh, and for making "anti-state calls to the public" and criticizing Azerbaijani policies.

Currently, Alexander Lapshin is in the Kurdakhani Pre-trial Detention Centre of the Baku Investigative Prison Nr 1.

**UPDATES**


Dispatch from press agency APA: "Alexander Lapshin left Azerbaijan"


EFJ/IFJ statement: "Azerbaijan: EFJ/IFJ welcome release of Mehman Aliyev and Alexander Lapshin"

20 Jul 2017: On 20 July, Aleksandr Lapshin was sentenced to 3 years in prison by the Baku Court of Grave Crimes.

Article published by Novaya Gazeta's news website (in Russian)
OSCE Representative on Freedom of the Media welcomes the pardon and release of Aleksandr Lapshin.

Tweet by Harlem Désir