

Connection e.V.

Internationale Arbeit für Kriegsdienstverweigerer
und Deserteure aus Kriegsgebieten



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Whom it may concern

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December 18, 2016

Regarding: Asylum application of Mr. Seungchul Shin

Dear,

herewith Connection e.V. would like to give an opinion on the asylum application of Mr. Seungchul Shin. The German based organization Connection e.V., founded in 1993, is working to conscientious objection and desertion worldwide. With a network of organizations in different countries we are able to provide current information about the situation of conscientious objectors e.g. about Eritrea, Egypt, Israel, Turkey, South Korea.

Seungchul Shin fled South Korea because of his conscientious objection. He is in high risk to face persecution if he has to return to South Korea.

South Korea doesn't accept the human right to conscientious objection. Every men is obliged to fulfill the military service. As a conscientious objector Sheunghul Shin will have to face prosecution. Regularly conscientious objectors are sentenced with 18 months of prison (for detailed information please see enclosed document of Amnesty International).

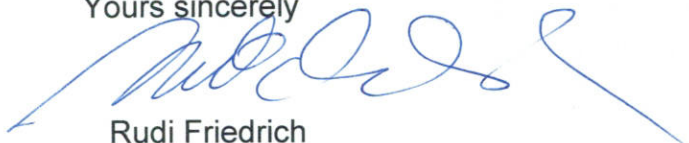
In 2011 the European Court of Human Rights defined in a judgement establishing a principle that the absent of a rule to conscientious objection is seen as a violation of Article 9 of the Convention: "opposition to military service, where it was motivated by a serious and insurmountable conflict between the obligation to serve in the army and a person's conscience, constituted a conviction or belief of sufficient importance to attract the guarantees of Article 9". (*ECHR 254 (2011), Application no. 43965/04*)

With these forms of persecution of conscientious objectors we see in the case of Sheunghul Shin a high danger of "a severe violation of basic human rights" as it is defined in Article 9 (1a) of the Directive 2011/95/EU on standards for the qualification of third-country nationals or stateless persons as beneficiaries of international protection

(Official Journal of the European Union, L 337/9), seeing these acts of persecution within the meaning of Article 1(A) of the Geneva Convention.

For these reasons our organization would ask you to grant asylum in the case of Sheunghul Shin.

Yours sincerely



Rudi Friedrich
General Secretary