



Warsaw, 5 October 2007

**THE REPUBLIC OF POLAND**  
**Commissioner for Civil Rights Protection**

*Dr Janusz KOCHANOWSKI*

**RPO-**

00-090 Warsaw Phone: +48 22 635 42 46  
Al. Solidarności 77 Fax: +48 22 827 64 53

**Mr Thomas Hammarberg**  
**The Council of Europe**  
**Commissioner for Human Rights**  
Office of the Commissioner for  
Human Rights  
Council of Europe  
F-67075 Strasbourg Cedex  
FRANCE

Dear Sir,

The current situation in Burma/Myanmar must arouse the gravest concern, particularly among those who stand for freedom and human rights. The violence applied by the authorities against persons undertaking the struggle for democracy in a country governed for several decades by a military junta must be met with strong opposition.

It is absolutely vital, in the light of the values shared by member states of the Council of Europe, to offer support to those citizens harmed by the regime. We cannot shirk the responsibility of protecting fundamental human rights, which are the unquestioned achievement of European civilisation but which are still denied to many nations around the world.

I have already appealed to you once to undertake actions within the framework of the Council of Europe's and your own possibilities in connection with the difficult situation in Chechnya. Today I would like to direct your attention to the matter of Burma. I have every confidence that you will not remain indifferent to my plea.

I remain respectfully yours