

May, 2011

To Whom it may Concern,

I am writing from the Irish Freedom Committee to urge the immediate compassionate release from prison of Brendan Lillis, a seriously ill prisoner who is being held without charge at Maghaberry prison outside of Belfast.

Brendan suffers from a painful and incurable condition called ankylosing spondylitis, which has rendered him bedridden for many months, and who has been deemed in a January 2010 High Court ruling to be unfit to stand trial. Despite this, and despite the charges against him subsequently being dropped, this man remains held in isolation, bedridden, with no access to fresh air or the outside world, denied the regular physical therapy that he badly needs, and without the specialist medical care that could ease the remainder of life he still has.

I am aware that Brendan Lillis is protected under the European Convention on Human Rights, and that the continued detention of this man is in contraindication of Article 5, the Right to Liberty and Security - specifically the duty the state owes Brendan to inform him of the reason for his continued detention; and Article 6, the Right to a Fair Trial. I am also aware that Brendan Lillis has a protected right under the EU HR Convention to the Provision of Medical Services under Article 2 the Right to Life.

Please immediately release Brendan Lillis back to his family and to seek specialist care for his rare, incurable and painful medical condition. This man is a threat to no-one in this condition, and his release is the right and humane thing to do!

Sincerely,