



Minister of Interior
Arsen Avakov
Vul. Akademika Bohomoltsa, 10
01601 Kyiv
Ukraine

Dear Minister,

I am deeply concerned about the repeated violent attacks and harassment against **Vitalina Koval** and others who peacefully defend the rights of women and LGBTI people in Ukraine. I urge you to publicly recognise and support their vital work and to ensure a safe and enabling environment in which they can exercise their right to freedom of expression and assembly without fear of attacks and reprisals.

I also urge you to ensure prompt, effective and impartial investigations are carried out into all attacks on activists by far-right groups which have been on the rise in Ukraine since 2017, and to ensure that any discriminatory motives are taken into account during the investigation. Those responsible for the attacks must be brought to justice.

Yours sincerely,