

INTERNATIONAL

IBA Condemns Detention of Russian Lawyer Who Criticized Ukraine War

by James Carstensen

The International Bar Association condemned the arrest and extended pretrial detention of a Russian lawyer over critical comments about the Ukraine war he posted to social media.

The IBA described the arrest of lawyer Dmitry Talantov as an “indisputable” human rights violation. In a statement, IBA president Sternford Moyo called for his release and for all charges against him to be dropped.

Talantov, a Russian human rights lawyer and president of the Bar Association of the Republic of Udmurtia, had posted comments critical of Russia’s invasion of Ukraine on Facebook on April 3 and was subsequently arrested on June 28 for dissemination of “deliberately false information.”

The post in question is no longer available, but a report by the International Commission of Jurists said that Talantov asserted that photos and videos from Kharkiv, Mariupol, Irpen and Bucha demonstrated “not fascism but extreme Nazi practices.”

The charge falls under a new Russian law introduced on March 7, a week and a half after the invasion began. It criminalizes alleged “public dissemination of knowingly false information about use of the Russian Armed Forces abroad and execution by the Russian government bodies of their powers, committed with motives of enmity or hatred.”

On Aug. 19, the Cheryomushki Court of Moscow extended his detention until at least Sept. 23.

Moyo said that the prolonged detention was disregarding the country’s Constitution.

“Article 29 of the Constitution of the Russian Federation guarantees freedom of thought and speech to everyone,” Moyo said. “The introduction of the new law under which Mr. Talantov has been charged can only be viewed as an attempt by Russia’s authorities to undermine the Constitution with the objective of silencing dissent.”

“The IBA condemns the arrest of Mr. Talantov and calls for the repeal of Article 207.3 of the Russian Criminal Code,” he said.

Both the IBA and ICJ report that Talantov had been denied access to a lawyer, and the IBA strongly censured the Russian Federal Bar Association, which it said has the remit to protect the professional rights of lawyers, for taking “no significant action to protect Talantov’s rights.”

Both organizations also noted that Talantov represented journalist Ivan Safronov, who is currently on trial for treason, with the ICJ explicitly expressing concern that Talantov may have been targeted in relation to his representation of Safronov.

IBA executive director Mark Ellis said the criminal prosecution and pretrial detention of Talantov is an “indisputable violation” of Article 19 of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights.

“The charges against Mr. Talantov expressly undermine his freedom of expression. Furthermore, his detention appears to criminalize his legitimate activities as a lawyer,” Ellis said in a statement.

Ellis added that “more than 500 members of Russia’s legal profession” have signed a petition defending Talantov.

“The representatives of the legal profession who have signed the petition seek to uphold and protect the rule of law, access to justice, human rights and the professional rights of lawyers in Russia,” Ellis said. “In what is a repressive political and legal environment these professionals should be applauded for their integrity and bravery.”

In early March, days after the invasion began, the IBA had similarly criticized the Association of Lawyers of Russia for issuing what it called a “pro-war statement” that said: “The legality of the decisions taken by the President of the Russian Federation follows from the applicable international law.”

James Carstensen reports for Law.com International, an ALM affiliate of the Daily Business Review. Contact him at jcarstensen@alm.com.

Linklaters, Haiwen Advise on Hong Kong’s Largest IPO in 2022

by Jessica Seah

Linklaters and Beijing-based Haiwen & Partners have advised on Hong Kong’s largest initial public offering this year.

Raising approximately \$2.1 billion, state-owned China Tourism Group Duty Free, which owns and operates the world’s largest tax-exempt retail network, has become Hong Kong’s largest issuer this year.

The deal surpasses the \$1.7 billion raised by Chinese lithium producer Tianqi Lithium in July.

China Tourism Group also owns almost a quarter of the world’s market share in the travel retail industry and is already listed in Shanghai.

The Linklaters team, which included Hong Kong capital markets partner Lipton Li, was led by the firm’s departing Hong Kong partner Iris Leung. Leung will soon be leaving the firm for Allen & Overy.

Freshfields Bruckhaus Deringer and Jia Yuan Law Offices are advising the underwriters.

China Tourism Group had initially planned to raise \$5 billion in Hong Kong in the last quarter of last year

later but shelved its plans due to a fall in its Shanghai stock prices, as well as the Chinese government’s new restrictions on offshore listings, which caused a plummet in share prices for many offshore-listed Chinese companies.

IPO fundraising in Hong Kong was down 90% in the first half of 2022. As of last week, companies have raised just \$5 billion this year from Hong Kong IPOs, compared with the \$35 billion raised in the whole of last year.

Other Chinese companies that have Hong Kong IPOs in the pipeline include Blackstone Inc.-backed PAG, an Asia-focused private equity firm. PAG filed for a \$2 billion listing in this March, but is now considering a delay due to market volatility, according to Bloomberg.

JunHe, Simpson Thacher & Bartlett and Travers Thorp Alberga are advising PAG, which is led by Chinese businessman Weijian Shan. The underwriters are being represented by Skadden, Arps, Slate, Meagher & Flom and Fangda Partners.

Jessica Seah reports for Law.com International, an ALM affiliate of the Daily Business Review. Contact her at jseah@alm.com.



CITY OF DORAL NOTICE OF ZONING WORKSHOP

All residents, property owners and other interested parties are hereby notified of a **Zoning Workshop** on **Thursday, September 8, 2022 at 6:00 p.m.** The Meeting will take place at the City of Doral, Government Center, Council Chambers located at 8401 NW 53rd Terrace, Doral, Florida, 33166.

The following application will be presented:

HEARING NO.: 22-09-DOR-01

APPLICANT: AIC Owners, LLC (the “Applicant”) c/o Vanessa Madrid, Esq.

PROJECT NAME: Americas International Center

PROPERTY OWNER: AIC Owners, LLC

LOCATION: 9300 NW 13 Street, Doral, Florida 33172

FOLIO NUMBER: 35-3033-003-0010

SIZE OF PROPERTY: ±8.39 acres

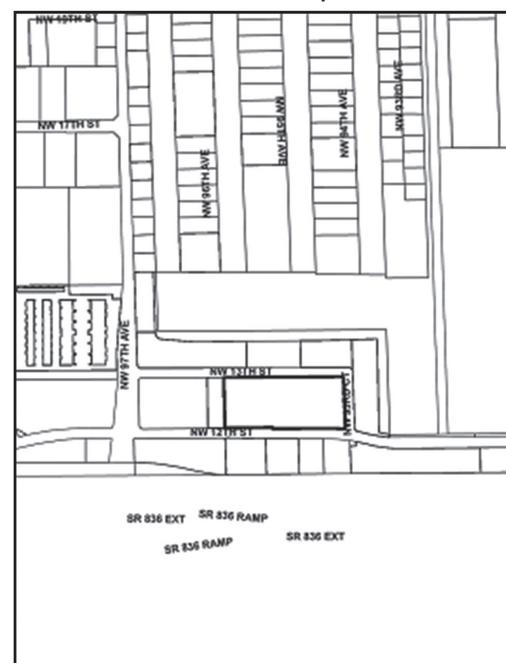
FUTURE LAND USE MAP DESIGNATION: Industrial (I)

ZONING DESIGNATION: Industrial District (I)

REQUEST: The Applicant proposes to redevelop the Property with a Class-A industrial development consisting of a 161,751 square-foot warehouse building, including up to approximately ten percent (10%) of accessory office space.

LEGAL DESCRIPTION: Tract 1, “Amended Plat of Dade Central Service Centers”, according to the Plat thereof, as recorded in Plat Book 106, Page 4, of the Public Records of Miami-Dade County, Florida.

Location Map



ZONING WORKSHOP PROCESS: The zoning workshop consists of two sessions:

1. **First Session.** The first session of a zoning workshop shall provide a forum for members of the public to learn about proposed developments within the city. Developments may be presented to the public simultaneously, in several locations within the meeting site. During this session, members of the public are encouraged to ask questions and to provide feedback to the applicant about the proposed development. The applicant shall provide visual depictions, such as renderings, drawings, pictures, and the location of the proposed development. In addition, representatives of the applicant shall be available to answer questions that members of the public may have about the proposed development. The members of the City Council shall not be present during the first session of the zoning workshop.

2. **Second Session.** The second session of a zoning workshop shall provide a forum for the City Council to learn about the proposed developments discussed at the first session of the zoning workshop. No quorum requirement shall apply. Developments shall be presented by the applicants sequentially, one at a time, for the City Council’s review and comment. The applicant shall again present visual depictions of the proposed development. In addition, the applicant shall be available to answer any questions that members of the City Council may have about the proposed development.

No quorum requirement shall apply nor will any vote on any project be taken, but roll call will be taken, as it is a publicly noticed meeting.

Information relating to this request is on file and may be examined in the City of Doral, Planning and Zoning Department located at **8401 NW 53rd Terrace, Doral, FL 33166**. Maps and other data pertaining to these applications are available for public inspection during normal business hours in City Hall. Inquiries regarding the item may be directed to the Planning and Zoning Department at 305-59-DORAL.

In accordance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, all persons who are disabled and who need special accommodations to participate in this meeting because of that disability should contact the Planning and Zoning Department at 305-59-DORAL no later than three (3) business days prior to the proceeding.

NOTE: If you are not able to communicate, or are not comfortable expressing yourself, in the English language, it is your responsibility to bring with you an English-speaking interpreter when conducting business at the City of Doral during the zoning application process up to, and including, appearance at a hearing. This person may be a friend, relative or someone else. A minor cannot serve as a valid interpreter. The City of Doral DOES NOT provide translation services during the zoning application process or during any quasi-judicial proceeding.

NOTA: Si usted no está en capacidad de comunicarse, o no se siente cómodo al expresarse en inglés, es de su responsabilidad traer un intérprete del idioma inglés cuando trate asuntos públicos o de negocios con la Ciudad de Doral durante el proceso de solicitudes de zonificación, incluyendo su comparecencia a una audiencia. Esta persona puede ser un amigo, familiar o alguien que le haga la traducción durante su comparecencia a la audiencia. Un menor de edad no puede ser intérprete. La Ciudad de Doral NO suministra servicio de traducción durante ningún procedimiento o durante el proceso de solicitudes de zonificación.

Connie Diaz, MMC
City Clerk
City of Doral