



Mr. Ostap M. Semerak
Minister for Ecology and
Natural Resources of Ukraine
35 Mytropolyta V. Lypkivskoho str.
03035 Kyiv Ukraine

25th of January 2019

Dear Mr. Semerak,

We are relieved that 6 bears and 4 lions were relocated from Pokrovsk zoo to a better facility. However, we believe the relocation preparations took too long and this is, for our point of view, unacceptable. We are very disappointed that the Ministry of Ecology and Natural Resources of Ukraine did not act transparently and did not proceed promptly with the confiscation but instead with a volunteer temporary transfer of animals.

Furthermore, this case shows that the legal requirements for the keeping of wild animals in Ukraine must be improved as soon as possible to prevent the return of the animals to Ihor Padalko according to the forthcoming court decision even once he makes slight improvements to his enclosures.

Entertainment venues with captive wild animals like Pokrovsk zoo must disappear. It is imperative that measures are taken so that other wild animals do not suffer in this way in the future!

We urge the Ministry of Ecology and Natural Resources of Ukraine to:

- Submit a claim against Ihor Padalko, as the competent governmental authority, and finally confiscate all wild animals.
- Improve the legal requirements for the keeping of wild animals in Ukraine as soon as possible and to work transparently.

Sincerely

Carsten Hertwig
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