Minister of Interior
Mr Joachim Brudziński
Ministerstwo Spraw
Wewnętrznych i Administracji
ul. Stefana Batorego 5
02-591, Warszawa
POLEN

**Ref: Concern for Elżbieta Podleśna**

Dear Minister of Interior,

I am writing to express my concern over the ongoing investigation against human rights defender Elżbieta Podleśna for “offending religious beliefs” after the police raided her home on 6 May 2019 and allegedly found copies of posters depicting the Virgin Mary with a halo around head and shoulders in the rainbow colours of the LGBTI pride flag.

Having, creating or distributing posters such as these, should not be a criminal offense and is protected under the right to freedom of expression.

Elżbieta Podleśna is already facing numerous legal proceedings stemming solely from her peaceful activism. The way she is targeted with absurd charges in this case is consistent with this pattern of harassment.

I therefore urge you to ensure that the investigation against Elżbieta Podleśna for “offending religious beliefs” is halted immediately, that the police return all of her belongings and that she can carry out her peaceful activism free from harassment and reprisals by the authorities.

Yours sincerely,