

**ALINA ANGHEL, Moldova**

Alina Anghel, a Moldovan journalist, is the new guest at the Hamburg Foundation for the Politically Persecuted. We would like to thank the Luise Rinser Foundation for its generous support.

Alina Anghel (30) is one of the bravest journalists in Moldova's young republic. As political editor of the independent paper *Timbul* she exposed a million-euro scandal having to do with luxury cars" in her article "Luxury in the Land of Poverty" (2003). The state chancellery had ordered more than 60 Skoda cars, valued at 1.5 million euros, for ministers and governors – without recourse to the official bodies, a parliamentary decision or a public tender.

Skoda now stands for corruption and thievery of public assets to many people, says Anghel. Her stories about irregularities among the upper echelons of the Interior Ministry brought her months of threatening phone calls. In June 2004, she was attacked

and assaulted, leaving visible scars. In Hamburg, at last, she can live without fear of persecution.

In January 2005 she was awarded Reporters Without Borders, Austria's Press Freedom for her articles critical of the regime. In 2002 and 2003 she was named Moldova's best investigative journalist by the Independent Journalism Center. Also in 2003, she received award from Transparency International for her contribution to the fight against corruption.

Alina Anghel met with Volker Rühle, German parliamentarian and chairman of the Bundestag's Foreign Affairs Committee, on June 27, 2005 in Berlin. Rühle had held a critical speech to Moldovan leaders on April 26, 2005 in Chisinau, in response to an invitation from the Germany's Southeast Europe Association and the German Foreign Office.

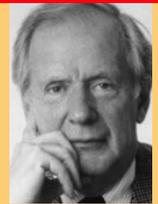


Alina Anghel and Volker Rühle, Chairman of the Bundestag's Foreign Affairs Committee

**MOLDOVA**

Situated between democratically oriented Romanian and Ukraine, Moldova has been an independent republic since 1991. The country is considered Europe's poorest, with an average per capita income of 450 euros per year. Despite losses, the Communist Party under the leadership of Vladimir Voronin again achieved a parliamentary majority in March

2005 elections - partly because the opposition had little access to the media. Independent newspapers continue to be slapped with fines for "insulting the state" and businesses are hindered from advertising in their pages. Employees at the public television broadcaster were even fired after they demanded more freedom.

**EDITORIAL****An open letter  
from  
Dr. von Dohnanyi**

*Ladies and Gentlemen,*

*With concern and dismay we discovered that Tunisia's state-controlled print media started a defamation campaign against our foundation guest, journalist and human rights activist Sihem Bensedrine (55).*

*Almost identical articles were published in two major Tunisian papers on May 8 and 11, 2005 accusing Ms. Bensedrine of, amongst other things "prostitution, selling herself to foreigners, Zionists and free masons" and calling her a "vicious viper" and a "creature of the devil," accusations that are both highly insulting and untrue. We have reason to believe that this verbal aggression might serve as preparation for physical attacks on Ms. Bensedrine. Supposedly unknown aggressors have already attacked her on several occasions in Tunisia.*

*We protest strongly against these insults and call on Tunisian media and the responsible authorities to immediately put an end to the campaign and to publicly take back the false accusations.*

*We also demand that the responsible Tunisian authorities guarantee Ms. Bensedrine's safety and physical integrity in Tunisia.*

*And we ask the German and European public and especially the media to do everything within their powers to protect Ms. Bensedrine not only from further slander but also from the threat of further attacks.*

*Sincerely,*  
Dr. Klaus von Dohnanyi  
Chairman of the board  
Hamburg Foundation  
for Politically Persecuted

**STIPENDS · READINGS · EXHIBITIONS**



**Maxwell Sibanda**, a scholarship holder at the Hamburg Foundation, received a follow-up stipend at the International Writers House in Graz. We would like to thank Max Aufischer and Luise Grinschgl for making this possible.



Gerhard Gross, M. Sibanda and State Counselor Bachmann at the press conference in Graz on May 17, 2005



Maxwell Sibanda's new home with a view of Graz



Image top, left: Julia Jusik  
Image bottom, left: the panel  
Image right: Libhan Basajeva

**STIPEND FOR ZEYNEL KIZILYAPRAK**



**Zeynel Kizilyaprak**, a guest at the foundation until April 2005, has been awarded a stipend at the Villa Aurora in Los Angeles.

Zeynel Kizilyaprak and Dr. Mechtild Borres-Knopp, „Villa Aurora“ director

**Reading and discussion** on the May 12, 2005 with Russian writer Julia Jusik and foundation guest Libhan Basajeva from Grozny. The Foundation for the Politically Persecuted and the German Journalists Association put on the event tackling the issue of Chechen women suicide bombers.

**„SHONA-ART“ IN GALLERY ELBCHAUSSEE**

“Giving life to the stone,” is the main theme of Zimbabwean Shona art. Foundation guest and culture editor Maxwell Sibanda opened the exhibition to 450 visitors on April 6, 2005.



Freimut Duve, until 2004 OSCE Representative on Freedom of the Media, Martina Bäurle, Maxwell Sibanda and Wolf Maack, gallerist

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**READING WITH SIHEM BENSEDRINE AT HANSEMERKUR**



Philipp Abresch, Prof. Dr. Udo Steinbach, Sihem Bensedrine und Barbara Derboven



Martina Bäurle

**To the sound of roaring applause**, the HanseMerkur insurance group and the Hamburg Foundation for the Politically Persecuted welcomed 200 guests on June 22, 2005 to the event "Besiegte Befreite" (The Liberated Conquered), an evening of film, discussion and readings about Iraq.

