

RELEASE IN
FULL

From: Sullivan, Jacob J <SullivanJJ@state.gov>
Sent: Friday, February 24, 2012 4:31 PM
To: H
Subject: Fw: Ukraine's president hints at Tymoshenko reprieve (AP)

FYI

From: OpsNewsTicker
Sent: Friday, February 24, 2012 04:19 PM
To: NEWS-Mahogany
Cc: SES-O
Subject: Ukraine's president hints at Tymoshenko reprieve (AP)

KIEV (AP) - Ukraine's president is hinting that new legislation being debated in parliament may allow reconsideration of the case of jailed former Prime Minister Yulia Tymoshenko.

In an interview with leading Ukrainian television channels Friday night, President Viktor Yanukovich said he is interested in finding the "right solution" and reviewing Tymoshenko's case according to "European standards."

Tymoshenko is serving out a seven-year jail term on charges of abuse of office while negotiating a gas contract with Russia in 2009. The West has condemned the verdict as politically motivated.

Yanukovich did not indicate exactly how changing the country's criminal code may affect Tymoshenko's case. He has floated that possibility in the past.

NewsTickers alert senior Department officials to breaking news. This item appears as it did in its original publication and does not contain analysis or commentary by Department sources.