

**KYRGYZSTAN**

**GULZAR**

**DUSHENOVA**

## Campaigning for the rights of disabled people

**Gulzar Duishenova fights for the rights of people with disabilities in Kyrgyzstan to live with dignity and move around freely. This is something she understands from her personal experience. She lost the movement in her legs after a car accident involving a drunk driver in 2002. The next year her husband died suddenly, leaving her as the sole carer for her two young children.**

When Gulzar met other people living with disabilities in the capital, Bishkek, she realised they faced common problems. It is hard to find jobs when workplaces are not adapted for wheelchairs and relying on other people to lift you on to a bus feels embarrassing and intrusive.

Gulzar meets officials, has organised training for bus drivers, and campaigns on social media. But she still faces barriers and daily discrimination in a society where women



are not meant to speak out and people with disabilities are seen as 'invalids' with an incurable disease.

### SEND A MESSAGE OF SUPPORT AND SOLIDARITY

Gulzar Duishenova  
c/o Amnesty International Ukraine  
POB 40  
04050  
Kyiv  
Ukraine  
Gulzardujsenova@gmail.com

**Language** English, Russian and Kyrgyz  
**Suggested message** We support you, Gulzar. We hope that your activism will lead to ratification of the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities.

### CAN I

- Send a religious card or message?  
**Muslim only**
- Send an Amnesty card or mention Amnesty? **Yes**
- Include my name and address? **Yes**

*Gulzar enjoys needlework and crocheting and would love to receive any arts and crafts pieces or supplies.*

### SEND AN APPEAL LETTER

Urge Speaker of Parliament Jogorku Kenesh to support Gulzar Duishenova's fight for the rights of persons with disabilities.

**Write to** Speaker of Parliament  
Jogorku Kenesh  
Chui prospekti, 205  
Bishkek  
Kyrgyzstan 720000

**Salutation** Dear Speaker

**In your letter tell him**

- To support Gulzar Duishenova and other activists as they campaign for the rights of persons with disabilities
- To ensure Kyrgyzstan ratifies and implements the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities.

**'If people see that people with disabilities are pushing for the right to work, views change and with that conditions change.'** Gulzar Duishenova

**WRITE  
FOR  
RIGHTS  
2018**



**EVERY MESSAGE COUNTS** Together we can defend the rights of people with disabilities

**AMNESTY  
INTERNATIONAL**

