



3

10 DOWNING STREET

THE PRIME MINISTER

8 December 1981

Dear Professor Schapiro

Thank you so much for your moving letter of 3 December. I, too, am deeply concerned about Dr. Sakharov's predicament. We shall do all we can to help him and his family.

I enclose the text of a statement issued by the Foreign and Commonwealth Office on 7 December. I had your letter in mind when the Sakharov case was raised in the House of Commons today. I made it plain that the Government were most concerned and I called on the Soviet Government to desist from their harassment of this noble man and to live up to the obligations they undertook at Helsinki. The Foreign Ministers of the Ten are discussing the matter today and I hope that further action will follow. - As you will have heard, a statement was issued.

I fully share your concern and will continue to take a close interest in the matter.

Yours sincerely

Margaret Thatcher

Professor L.B. Schapiro, C.B.E.