

Iranian student expelled from Norway

An Iranian student at the University College in Narvik (Høgskolen i Narvik) was on 11 October given 12 days to leave Norway. The student, Shahram Yazdanpanah (36) had been in Narvik more than one year, successfully completing an introductory course in Norwegian language and culture and about to start his Masters in Satellite Technology, when the Norwegian Police Security Service (PST) notified the Norwegian Directorate of Immigration (UDI) that he should not be granted a renewal of his Student Visa. PST refers to a UN resolution ratified by Norway, stating that Iranian citizens should not be given access to knowledge about rocket technology. The student is now back in Iran, devastated by the decision, calling it a big mistake since he has absolutely no intentions of misusing the knowledge he would get from the masters program in Narvik, a knowledge the Rector of Narvik University College, Arne Erik Holdø says is open to anyone, and that full information about the study program and curriculum is available on the internet. The rector regrets the PST decision, saying it is a loss to both the institution and the student.

Read more (in Norwegian) under the following links:

Nrk:

<http://www.nrk.no/nyheter/utenriks/1.6838014>

<http://www.nrk.no/nyheter/utenriks/1.6838361>

Dagbladet:

http://www.dagbladet.no/2009/10/27/nyheter/atomvapen/politiets_sikkerhetstjeneste/8759066/

http://www.dagbladet.no/2009/10/28/nyheter/politiets_sikkerhetstjeneste/iran/8762649/

Narvik University College:

<http://www.hin.no/index.php?ID=4458&lang=nor&displayitem=766&module=news>