

No Orphanage for Child

January 19, 2011

The  Moscow Times

MINSK — Belarussian authorities have ruled that a 3-year-old boy whose parents are being held by police following a crackdown on the political opposition can continue to live with his grandmother, she said Wednesday.

The boy, Danil, is the son of Andrei Sannikov, one of several opposition candidates who ran against President Alexander Lukashenko in a Dec. 19 election, and journalist Irina Khalip.

The boy's grandmother, Lyutsina Khalip, had earlier said social workers told her she had to prove her fitness to look after Danil. She feared this was an implicit threat to put the child in an orphanage as a means of putting pressure on his parents. But the threat had now been lifted, Khalip said.

✉(Reuters)