



# CRIMEAN HUMAN RIGHTS GROUP

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## CRIMEAN HUMAN RIGHTS SITUATION REVIEW

Monitoring review of the human rights situation in Crimea

**September 2016**

This monitoring review was prepared  
by the Crimean Human Rights Group  
on the basis of materials collected  
in September 2016

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## 1. INTRODUCTION

The **Crimean Human Rights Group (CHRG)** is an organization of the Crimean human rights defenders and journalists, the purpose of which is to promote the observance and protection of human rights in Crimea by attracting widespread attention to the problems of human rights and international humanitarian law in the territory of the Crimean peninsula, as well as the search and development of mechanisms to protect the human rights in Crimea.

The **CHRG** first of all obey the rules of basic documents in the field of human rights, such as: the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, the Helsinki Final Act, the Convention on the Protection of Human Rights and Fundamental Freedoms, the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, the International Covenant on economic, social and cultural Rights and others.

The main objectives of the **CHRG**:

1) Collection and analysis of the information regarding the human rights situation in the Crimea;  
2) Broad awareness among governments, international organizations, intergovernmental organizations, non-governmental organizations, the media and other target groups through the publication and spreading of analytical and information materials on the human rights situation in Crimea;

3) Promote the protection of human rights and respect for international law in Crimea;

4) Preparation of recommendations for government authorities and international organizations in the sphere of human rights;

5) Providing the presence of «human rights in the Crimea topics» in the information space.

The **CHRG's** team consists of experts, human rights activists and journalists from different countries who are involved in monitoring and documenting human rights violations in Crimea, since February, 2014.

During preparation and spreading of the information the **CHRG** is guided by principles of objectivity, reliability and timeliness.



## 2. CIVIL AND POLITICAL RIGHTS

### RIGHT TO LIBERTY AND SECURITY OF THE PERSON

#### DETENTIONS

On September 21, a resident of Evpatoria **Sergey Vasilchenko** reported in an open letter that he had been unlawfully detained by the police. Vasilchenko sent the open letter to human rights defenders and journalists, as well as published it in the social network VKontakte. According to him, on September 16, the police officers, one of which introduced himself as Sergey Boitsov, came to his home and not explaining the reasons detained him and took him to the Department of the Ministry of Internal Affairs of Russia in Evpatoria.

The CHRГ found that Sergey Vasilievich Boitsov resides in Evpatoria, previously was a senior criminal investigator and major of the MIA of Ukraine, and currently is a senior criminal investigator and police major of the Criminal Investigation Department of the Ministry of Internal Affairs of Russia in in Evpatoria.

Vasilchenko said that under threats and psychological pressure he was forced to admit that he was involved in putting inscriptions on the walls calling to boycott the Russian elections in Crimea. His apartment was searched; the devices, mobile phone, two civil passports, Ukrainian and Russian, and two foreign passports were seized. He was refused to be provided with copies of the detention and house inspection protocols. Fearing the unjustified criminal prosecution, Vasilchenko no longer resides in his apartment<sup>1</sup>.

#### SEARCHES

The Mufti of the Muslims of Ukraine Said Ismagilov reported that on September 5 there was a search at the **mosque of Simferopol, located at 7, Mokrousova St.**, formerly known as the building of the organization 'Al-Raid'. According to Mufti, the armed riot police entered the premise around noon. All entrances to the premise have been blocked. Throughout the day, the believers were not allowed to the mosque for prayer. According to Ismagilov, earlier, there were repeated cases of planting in the mosque the religious literature banned in Russia. He believes that this time, on the territory near the mosque, the package with two books Three Bases by Muhammad Abd al-Wahhab was planted. The books were found in the yard near the toilet. The Mufti is sure that it was fabricated, because the Muslims do not go to the toilet with books, especially religious ones. It is strictly prohibited to bring the religious literature to the hygiene rooms (toilet, bath, shower etc.) or keep them nearby. The local religious community, which consists of several thousand parishioners, was told that the criminal case against it will be opened and sent to court<sup>2</sup>.

On September 14, the police searched the home of the Chairman of the regional Mejlis of Pervomaisk district **Enver Alyadinov** in the Grishino village. The search started at around 17.00. According to the presented resolution the law enforcers were searching for drugs. The search was conducted by Pervomaisk district police<sup>3</sup>. As a result of the search nothing was found. After the search, the law enforcers, together with Alyadinov, went to his father's home, where they also searched for drugs. The father at the moment was in the hospital.

<sup>1</sup> <https://www.facebook.com/crimeaahrg/posts/1778657092419924>

<sup>2</sup> <http://avdet.org/ru/2016/09/06/v-simferopolskoj-mecheti-siloviki-nashli-zapreshennuyu-religiozную-literaturu-vozle-tualeta/>

<sup>3</sup> <https://www.facebook.com/nariman.dzhelalov/posts/1222602277803630?pnref=story>



## POLITICALLY MOTIVATED CRIMINAL PROSECUTION

### PERSECUTION OF THE KIEV MAIDAN MEMBERS: ANDREY KOLOMIETS' CASE

On September 12, **Andrey Kolomiets'** lawyer Mikhail Kushpel submitted to the Chairman of the Investigative Committee of Russia A.I. Bastrykin and the Chairman of the Supreme Court of Russia V.M. Lebedev the claims about the actions of the judge M.N. Belousov, suspected of committing a crime in Ukraine. On June 10, the judge Belousov found Kolomiets guilty (under part 3 of Article 30 paragraphs a, b, f, m, part 2 of Article 105 and part 2 of Article 228 of the Criminal Code of the Russian Federation) and sentenced him to 10 years of imprisonment in a strict regime penal colony.

The lawyer believes that the sentence was imposed with gross violations of the substantive and procedural law, and the judge intentionally misrepresented the legally relevant facts in this criminal case. In the claim the lawyer points to a number of serious violations committed by the judge Belousov. Thus, the judge rejected the defense's request for a comprehensive forensic medical examination for Kolomiets aimed to establish the effect on him of the application of an electric current in May 2015, when he was detained in the Kabardino-Balkar Republic of the Russian Federation. The lawyer considers that the judge also confirmed the unsubstantiated conclusions of the investigator, without justifying them.

The judge Belousov knew that the relevant Ukrainian authorities were investigating the events, for the participation in which Kolomiets was accused. Thus, Belousov was not entitled to consider this criminal case and was required to abstain from consideration.

Due to the fact that the judge Belousov repeatedly violated Kolomiets' rights, and most likely has a personal interest in the persecution of a citizen of Ukraine, the lawyer is asking the Investigative Committee of Russia and the Supreme Court of Russia to address the relevant panel of judges to obtain a consent for bringing the judge of the Kiev District Court of Simferopol Belousov to responsibility.

The lawyer also reported that he had sent an appeal against the sentence by mail, but the letter came back unopened. The defense counsel states that it is a gross violation, as the Kiev District Court of Simferopol was to send the claim to the 'Supreme Court of the Republic of Crimea'. He believes that in such a way the artificial conditions are created for missing the period of appeal against the sentence<sup>4</sup>. The inability to appeal against the sentence violates the of Andrei Kolomiets' right to access to justice.

### «CASE OF FEBRUARY 26»

In Crimea the court sessions on the 'February 26th Case' continue to be held. As of the beginning of September 2016, the case involved 6 people. The Deputy Chairman of the Mejlis of the Crimean Tatars Akhtem Chiygoz was accused of organizing a 'mass disorder' on February 26, 2014, in Ukraine, in front of the building of the Verkhovna Rada of Crimea in Simferopol. Another 5 people were accused of involvement in this 'mass disorder'. **Akhtem Chiygoz, Ali Asanov and Mustafa Degermendzhi** have been held at the detention center in Simferopol since the beginning of 2015.

<sup>4</sup> <http://crimeahrg.org/prigovor-vyinesennyiy-ukraintsu-kolomiytsu-v-kryimu-politicheski-motivirovan-pravozashhitniki/>



In September, the court sessions on the Akhtem Chiygoz' case continued, and the statements of the «victims» in the case were heard. The court continues to deny Chiygoz' presence in the courtroom. He takes part in the court sessions remotely via videoconference. The applications for Chiygoz' presence in the courtroom have been constantly rejected. In addition, the judge has rejected almost all applications submitted by the defense. In September, there were 12 court sessions on the Chiygoz' case. In the course of them the statements of more than 45 «victims» in this case were heard. Most of them are members of the paramilitary group — the 'Crimean self-defense'. Most of the «victims» did not apply to the hospital and do not have the documents confirming the injuries. Also, almost none of the «victims» associates the cause of the injuries directly with Akhtem Chiygoz. Of all the «victims» questioned during September, only one person was a citizen of the Russian Federation in February 2014, all the rest were the citizens of Ukraine. The husband of a woman who died in a crowd during the protest does not associate the death of his wife with members of the pro-Ukrainian rally. He said that the woman at the time of death was among the pro-Russian protesters.

On September 13, the panel of judges of the «Supreme Court of Crimea», composed of the judge Kapustina L.P., Pogrebnyak S.N., Latynin Y.A. upheld the decision to divide the 'February 26th case' into two proceedings. According to this decision, the Deputy Chairman of the Mejlis of the Crimean Tatars Akhtem Chiygoz is tried separately as the «organizer» of the mass disorder at the Crimean Parliament and the consideration of the case of five other defendants accused of involvement in the mass disorder is transferred to the «Central District Court» of Simferopol.

On September 29, the «Supreme Court of Crimea» extended the Akhtem Chiygoz' detention until January 8, 2017. As of September 29, 2016, Akhtem Chiygoz has been in detention for 1 year and 8 months.

### «CASE OF HIZB UT-TAHRIR»

In early September, in connection to the «Hizb-Ut-Tahrir» case, 14 people have been detained — **Ruslan Zeytulaev, Rustem Vaitov, Nuri Primov, Ferat Sayfulaev, Enver Bakirov, Vadim Siruk, Muslim Aliev, Emir-Usein Kuku, Refat Alimov, Arsen Dzhepparov, Enver Mamutov, Remzi Memetov, Zevri Abseitov, Rustem Abiltarov**. They were accused under part 1 of Article 205.5 of the Criminal Code of the RF (Creation of a terrorist organization) and/or part 2 of Article 205.5 of the Criminal Code of the RF (Participation in a terrorist organization).

On September 5, the Kiev District Court of Simferopol resolved that Muslim Aliev, Emir-Usein Kuku, Arsen Dzhepparov and Inver Bekirov who were arrested on February 11, 2016, in Yalta will remain in detention until December 8<sup>5</sup>. On September 6, the Kiev District Court of Simferopol extended the detention of Refat Alimov and Vadim Siruk which were also arrested on February 11 near the Big Yalta, until December 8, 2016.

On September 7, the North-Caucasian District Military Court in Rostov-on-Don sentenced four residents of Sevastopol detained in early 2015 on the «Hizb-Ut-Tahrir» case. The judge Vyacheslav Alekseevich Korsakov reclassified Ruslan Zeytullaev's charge from part 1 of Article 205.5 (Organization of activity of a terrorist organization) to part 2 of Article 205.5 (Participation in a terrorist organization), and sentenced him to 7 years of imprisonment in a penal colony. Ferat Sayfullaev, Rustem Vaitov and Nuri Primov were sentenced to five years in a penal colony. Ruslan Zeytullaev, Rustem Vaitov and Nuri Primov have been detained since January 23, 2015; Ferat Sayfullaev — since April 2, 2015. The Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Ukraine

<sup>5</sup> <http://15minut.org/news/163196-krymskih-musulman-ostavili-v-sizo-do-8-dekabrya>



expressed the protest in connection with the sentencing of four citizens of Ukraine and demanded its immediate abolition<sup>6</sup>.

The prosecutor appealed against the verdict of the North-Caucasian District Military Court in respect of Ruslan Zeytullaev and demanded to sentence him under part 1 of Article 205.5 for a period of 17 years. The four convicts appealed for acquittal.

On September 26, the Supreme Court of Crimea rejected Emir-Usein Kuku and Vadim Siruk's appeals against the decision of the Kiev District Court to extend the detention until December 8, 2016<sup>7</sup>.

On September 27, Emir-Usein Kuku's lawyer Alexander Popkov reported that the juvenile justice officer discovered in the Kuku's behavior the indicia of Article 156 of the Criminal Code of the RF 'Neglect of minor children'. The officer initially demanded to bring the children for questioning, and after the refusal intended to talk to children without parents present. According to the lawyer, the officer is trying to find the children at school and collecting the data on the children and the family. As a result of these actions the children stay at home and are afraid to go to school<sup>8</sup>.

On September 27, the Supreme Court of Crimea upheld the first instance decision on Muslim Aliev; the judge decided to hold Aliev in detention until December 8, 2016. The court session was held as a conference call in the presence of the judge Latynin and the prosecutor Filipenko.

#### «UKRAINIAN SABOTEURS' CASE»

The Russian Ombudsman Tatyana Moskalkova stated that she received from the Ombudsman of Ukraine Valeria Lutkovska a request regarding the citizens of Ukraine, which were detained by the Russian authorities under the «Ukrainian diversionists' case». According to Moskalkova, she sent a request to the investigating authorities in order to obtain the information requested by Lutkovska, on the number, names and conditions of detention of the Ukrainian citizens<sup>9</sup>. Later, Tatyana Moskalkova said that she sent to Valeria Lutkovska the FSS data obtained at the request of the two «Crimean diversionists». However, the Ukrainian Ombudsman's office did not receive the information from the Russian Ombudsman.

According to Evgeny Panov's relatives, in order to obtain the confession he had been subjected to torture for three days. The CHRNG experts suggest that torture could have been applied within August 7 — 10, as Panov was brought to the Simferopol detention center only on August 10, but he was probably detained on August 7. It is unknown where exactly he had been within August 7-10; possibly he was in the premises of the MID or the FSS of Russia, where he had been subjected to torture.

According to the CHRNG, one of the FSS investigators in the Panov's case is a former SSU officer, who is on the wanted list in Ukraine. It is a major of justice Golyshev M.A., currently a senior investigator for high-level cases of the FSS Department in the Republic of Crimea and Sevastopol city<sup>10</sup>.

<sup>6</sup> <http://mfa.gov.ua/ua/press-center/news/50606-komentar-mzs-ukrajini-shhodo-vinesennya-rosijsykim-sudom-virokiv-gromadyanam-ukrajini-rzejtullajevu-fsajfullajevu-rvaitovu-ta-nprimovu>

<sup>7</sup> <https://www.facebook.com/groups/487906314740295/permalink/534062616791331/>

<sup>8</sup> <https://www.facebook.com/alexander.popkov.7/posts/1149727848447567>

<sup>9</sup> <https://ria.ru/incidents/20160902/1475904377.html>

<sup>10</sup> <http://crimeahrg.org/ukraintsa-evgeniya-panova-v-kryimu-tri-dnya-zhestoko-pyitali-siloviki-vyibivaya-pokazaniya/>



The European Court of Human Rights under the procedure stipulated by Article 39 of the Convention for the Protection of Human Rights and Fundamental Freedoms required from the Russian Federation to provide the information about Evgeny Panov's health status, and allow him to see a lawyer.

On September 5, the investigative authorities of the Russian Federation brought charges against the second person involved in the «Ukrainian diversionists' case» Andrey Zakhtey. According to his wife Oksana Zakhtey, her husband has been also subjected to torture, including using the electric current. In addition, Zakhtey was blackmailed in respect to his wife and young daughter. According to Oksana Zakhtey, her husband was threatened that his wife would be deported and the daughter would be placed in an orphanage.

The access of the first lawyer, contracted by Panov's family, to the defendant was denied by the investigator on the grounds that Panov allegedly voluntarily declined his services.

After that, the family signed a contract with a second lawyer, who continued to try to visit Panov in the detention center. On September 29, the lawyer was able to visit his client in the detention center. During the visit, the lawyer issued a certificate of Panov's examination, where he indicated, that on the body of a Ukrainian there were visible signs of torture and duress. When talking to the lawyer Panov confirmed that he had been subjected to torture during August 7-12. One of the forms of torture was the use of the electric current. Under torture he was forced to call himself a Ukrainian diversionist, who arrived in Crimea allegedly to commit the acts of terrorism. Panov told the lawyer that as a result of torture he was forced to frame himself. He also said that he was forced to decline the services of the previous lawyers hired by the relatives. He was forced to work only with a lawyer who, according to him, was provided by the FSS officers — Olga Pomozova. She, according to Panov, knew about the torture, but took no action for the defense.



## FREEDOM OF SPEECH AND EXPRESSION\*

On September 4, the resident of Yalta, lawyer **Yuri Formus** told the CHRГ that the local authorities have been persecuting him for his pro-Ukrainian views. Earlier, the deputies of the Yalta City Council filed a collective application to the FSS<sup>12</sup>. In the application to the Head of the FSS of the RF the deputies indicated that Formus did not support the Russia's annexation of Crimea and referred to his page on the social network Facebook. The local deputies asked to conduct an inspection «on the fact that Formus Y.V. was engaged in activities aimed at undermining the authority of the state and local authorities of the Russian Federation in the Republic of Crimea».

Following the deputies' application, Formus was summoned for «questioning» to the Economic Security and Anti-Corruption Division of the Department of the Ministry of Internal Affairs of Russia in Yalta<sup>13</sup>. Formus also links such actions of local deputies to the fact that he had previously filed an application on the resignation of Valery Kosarev, the «Chairman of the Yalta City Council».

In September, a resident of Yalta, **Guriy Korniliev**, PhD in Biology, told the CHRГ that on August 8, 2016, he was dismissed because of his political views. The scientist said that the dismissal was connected to the fact that he refused to obtain the Russian citizenship. Korniliev said that he did not agree with the actions of the Russian Federation in relation to Crimea, and in March 2014 he refused to obtain the Russian passport. The administration of the Nikitsky Botanical Garden several times warned the scientist that he should withdraw the refusal, and 2 years later he was dismissed<sup>14</sup>.

On September 7, in Sevastopol, a local resident **Igor Movenko** was beaten. He was beaten up by a passerby dressed in civilian clothes, who said that he was a law enforcement officer. The reason for the attack was the stickers with the Ukrainian symbols on the Movenko's bicycle frame. The stickers depicted the coat of arms of Ukraine and the symbols of the Ukrainian volunteer battalion 'Azov'. As a result of the attack, the doctors diagnosed Movenko with four fractures of facial bones (**Annex 1**). The police that arrived on the scene issued a report on the use by Movenko of the «Nazi» symbols. However, the criminal investigation into the beating of Igor Movenko has not been opened. On September 22, the Gagarin Court of Sevastopol sentenced Movenko to an administrative fine of 2,000 rubles under part 1 of Article 20.3 of the Administrative Code of the RF (Propaganda or public display of the Nazi paraphernalia or symbols)<sup>15</sup>. The Prosecutor's Office of the AR of Crimea in Kiev commenced the pre-trial investigation into the beating of a citizen of Ukraine in Sevastopol. According to the CHRГ, as of the end of September, the case on causing grievous bodily harm to Movenko has not been opened in Crimea.

On September 18, in Crimea, the car of the 'Rosuznik' activist **Yana Goncharova** was deliberately damaged at night. Goncharova supposes that this attack is related to her journalistic activities and support of political prisoners. Goncharova came to Crimea in order to visit the families of political prisoners, including the Kolchenko and Sentsov's families. She stayed at Oleg Sentsov's home, where his mother and two children reside. The activist filed a complaint with the police<sup>16</sup>.

On September 18, the police officers arrested and brought to the Central Department of Internal Affairs the journalist of «Rossiyskaya Gazeta» **Marina Reznikova**. The reason for the arrest

\* The section was prepared in cooperation with the Human Rights Information Center: <https://humanrights.org.ua/en?cl=en>

<sup>12</sup> <http://crimeahrg.org/wp-content/uploads/2016/09/donos-.jpg>

<sup>13</sup> <http://crimeahrg.org/wp-content/uploads/2016/09/povestka-.jpg>

<sup>14</sup> <http://crimeahrg.org/v-kryimu-uvolili-molodogo-uchenogo-posle-ego-otkaza-ot-rossiyskogo-grazhdanstva/>

<sup>15</sup> <http://crimeahrg.org/izbitogo-v-sevastopole-kryimchanina-sud-oshtrafoval-za-nakleyku-batalona-azov/>

<sup>16</sup> <https://www.facebook.com/yanagoncharova/posts/10210629307395012>



was the professional activity — photoshoot of the house where the head of Crimea Sergey Ak-senov resides. After the arrest Reznikova provided the explanations and was released uncharged. After that she said that she did not have any claims against the law enforcement officers.

On September 20, the Zheleznodorozhny Court of Simferopol sentenced the citizen of Ukraine **Alexey Shestakovich** to a fine of 1,000 rubles for the publication of a video on the social network. He was accused of violating Article 20.29 of the Administrative Code of the RF 'Mass distribution of extremist materials included in the published federal list of extremist materials'. The post was published in 2010. The Russian authorities do not deny that in 2010 the provisions of the Russian legislation did not apply to Crimea. Moreover, the video posted by Shestakovich, was included in the list of extremist materials in March 2012, i.e. two years after Shestakovich had posted it. Thus, the court applied Article 20.29 of the Administrative Code to the activist Shestakovich backward in time<sup>17</sup>.

The CHRГ received more than 10 complaints from the residents of Crimea that the de facto authorities were using administrative resources in order to force the local residents to participate in elections to the State Duma of the RF held in Crimea on September 18. The Crimeans reported that under the threat of dismissal and deprivation of wages, they were forced to come to the polling stations. The international organizations did not recognize the legitimacy of elections to the State Duma of the Russian Federation on the territory of Crimea.

## THE ILMU UMEROV'S CASE

In May, a criminal case against Ilmi Umerov was opened under part 2 of Article 280.1 of the Criminal Code Of the RF «Public calls for actions aimed at violating the territorial integrity of the Russian Federation, committed using information and telecommunications networks (including the Internet)» for his public statements that Crimea is the territory of Ukraine.

On September 7, Ilmi Umerov was discharged from a psychiatric hospital. Against his will, he spent three weeks in a psychiatric hospital in order to undergo a forensic psychiatric examination on the basis of the decision of the Kiev District Court of Simferopol. According to the results of the medical examination, Ilmi Umerov is mentally healthy, but a medical assessment report to certify it was not provided to him. According to the medical staff, in view of the fact that Umerov was placed in an in-patient hospital upon investigator's request, the expert conclusion would be provided to the investigator.

On September 13, the Supreme Court of Crimea chaired by the judge Fedotova T.P. dismissed the Ilmi Umerov's appeal against the unlawful opening of criminal proceedings against him. The complaints on the unlawfulness of pledging Umerov to the nondisclosure of case materials (despite the decision of the Constitutional Court of the Russian Federation N467-O of 21.12.2004, which prohibits such pledging of the accused) and the unlawfulness of Umerov's forensic psychiatric examination have been also rejected.

<sup>17</sup> The Resolution on the imposition of an administrative penalty against A. Shestakovich, document: <http://crimeahrg.org/wp-content/uploads/2016/10/SHestakovich-postanovlenie-o-naznachenii-nakazaniya.pdf>



## FREEDOM OF PEACEFUL ASSEMBLY

The activists of **Alushta city and Partenit** village submitted a notification on holding a meeting on September 3 in Partenit to express their distrust of the members of the 'United Russia' party in Alushta. The notification was submitted on August 24. On August 25, the Head of Administration of the Alushta city Igor Sotov agreed this meeting and appointed a representative of the city authorities at the meeting — Gavrilyuk T.N.<sup>18</sup>.

However, the day before the meeting, on September 2, the organizer of the event Alexey Nazimov found in the split of the entrance door of his apartment a notification from the city administration on the ban on the previously agreed event. Also in the door there was a warning from the city police department on the inadmissibility of violation of the law on public events. The reason for the ban was that at the time and location specified by organizers the event «Young Guard of the United Russia of Alushta» would be held<sup>19</sup>. However, the event of the «Young Guard» did not take place, but using such formal cause, the Partenit activists were denied the right to exercise their right to peaceful assembly.

## FREEDOM OF ASSEMBLY VIOLATIONS IN CONNECTION WITH REMEMBRANCE DAY OF THE VICTIMS OF CRIMEAN TATARS DEPORTATION

On May 18, the Day of Remembrance of the Victims of Deportation in Sudak, four Crimean Tatars were arrested for participating in the motor rally with Crimean Tatar flags under part 2 of Article 20.2 of the Administrative Code of the RF «Violation of the established procedure of organizing or holding meetings, rallies, demonstrations, marches and pickets». The judge of the Sudak City Court ordered to dismiss the case against the arrested<sup>20</sup>. However, the Sudak police appealed against this decision.

On September 1, the Supreme Court of Crimea granted the appeal of the police and returned the cases of **Seytmamut Seytumerov** and **Alim Muslyadinov** to the court of first instance for consideration. Earlier, on August 29, a similar decision was adopted with regard to the two other activists, **Enver Chavush** and **Ablyakim Ablyakimov**.

<sup>18</sup> <http://www.tvoya-gazeta.com/news-alushta/4268-v-partenite-alushta-sostoitsja-miting.html>

<sup>19</sup> <http://www.tvoya-gazeta.com/news-alushta/4277-vlast-alushty-zapretila-razreshennyj-eju-zhe-miting-video.html>

<sup>20</sup> [https://sudak--krm.sudrf.ru/modules.php?name=sud\\_delo&srv\\_num=1&name\\_op=case&case\\_id=151343641&result=1&delo\\_id=1500001](https://sudak--krm.sudrf.ru/modules.php?name=sud_delo&srv_num=1&name_op=case&case_id=151343641&result=1&delo_id=1500001)



## FREEDOM OF ASSOCIATION

On April 26, the Supreme Court of Crimea decided to recognize the Mejlis of the Crimean Tatars an extremist organization and ban its activity in the territory of the Russian Federation. This decision was appealed against by the defense. Subsequently, the local authorities began to apply the provisions of the «anti-extremism» legislation of the Russian Federation to the members of the Mejlis.

On September 26, according to First Deputy Chairman of the Mejlis Nariman Jalal, several members of the Mejlis of the Crimean Tatars and the Kurultai delegates were summoned for questioning to the Center for Combating Extremism of the MIA in Simferopol. The MIA officials asked about the recent decisions of the Mejlis on the suspension of powers of the members of the Mejlis Emirali Ablaev, Ruslan Yakubov and Aider Adzhimambetov, as well as about Aider Adzhimambetov's dismissal from the position of the Deputy Chairman of the Mejlis.

On September 27, a member of the Mejlis of the Crimean Tatars **Ali Khamzin**, after the interrogation in the Bakhchisaray police department with the participation of officials of the Center for Combating Extremism was charged with violating the part 1 of Article 20.28 of the Administrative Code of the RF «Organization of activity of a public or religious association, in respect of which there is a decision to suspend its activities». The same day, the judge of the Bakhchisaray District Court Morozko O.R. passed a decision to impose Khamzin a fine of 1,000 rubles.

On September 28, the Deputy Chairman of the Mejlis **Ilmi Umerov** was convicted by the judge of the Bakhchisaray District Court Skisov A.V. under the same article — under part 1 of Article 20.28 of the Administrative Code of the RF, and imposed a fine of 750 rubles.

On September 29, in the Supreme Court of Russia, there was a session on «the ban on activities of the public association Mejlis of the Crimean Tatars» in the manner and on the grounds set forth by Article 9 of the Federal Law of the RF «On Countering Extremist Activity». At the session, the Chief Prosecutor of Crimea Vladimir Chukhrin insisted that «the activities of the Majlis pose a threat to the security of the state and the society». The Supreme Court of the Russian Federation rejected the defense's appeal on the case «On the prohibition of the Mejlis» and upheld the decision of the Supreme Court of Crimea of April 26, 2016, to ban the activities of the Mejlis.

On September 30, in Bakhchisaray, in the Center for Combating Extremism, in respect of six Crimean Tatars (**Emine Avamileva, Dilyaver Akkiev, Mustafa Maushev, Bekir Mamut, Sadykhov Tabakh and Shevket Kaybullaev**) the protocols were issued under Article 20.28 of the Administrative Code of the RF «Organization of activity of a public or religious association, in respect of which there is a decision to suspend its activities». Emine Avamileva informed the CHRGG that the court sessions for consideration of these administrative proceedings were scheduled for October 4.

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