



# CRIMEAN HUMAN RIGHTS GROUP

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## CRIMEAN HUMAN RIGHTS SITUATION REVIEW

**July 2017**

The monitoring review was prepared  
by the Crimean Human Rights Group  
on the basis of materials collected  
in July 2017

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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 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 10 July, a judge of the Kyiv District Court of Simferopol, Mikhail Belousov, sentenced **Bilyal Adilov** to a fine of 10,000 rubles under article 318 of the Criminal Code of the Russian Federation (violence and threats to the representative of power)<sup>1</sup>. On 29 March in Simferopol, unknown people in masks without identification signs forcefully put Bilyal Adilov in a Volkswagen Multivan minibus in dark blue colour (state number K 953 EU 82). This happened near the building of the “Supreme Court” of Crimea, where Adilov came as a listener for a hearing on the “Hizb ut-Tahrir case”. Later it became known that in such a way with gross violations of procedural norms Bilyal Adilov was detained and taken to the Investigation Committee of the Russian Federation, where he was charged under article 318 of the Criminal Code of the Russian Federation. On 31 March, the court rejected the petition of the FSS investigator and released Adilov from custody under a written undertaking not to leave the place. Three months later, he was found guilty of using violence against members of the government.

On 11 July, a resident of the village of Lenino, a Muslim **Peter Borodin** said that he was kidnapped by unknown people. On the published video<sup>2,3</sup> he told about it and also confirmed it to the CHRG that four unknown people took him out of the house by cheating him, put him in a car, and drove him to a deserted place. Threatening with the use of firearms, they conducted an interrogation for three hours. They were interested in information about Muslims, and also demanded to agree to cooperate with them. During the interrogation, they did not provide any documents and did not introduce themselves. After the interrogation they offered to sign a statement about the absence of complaints against them and let them go.

<sup>1</sup> <https://www.facebook.com/photo.php?fbid=2021659351396050&set=a.1618788165016506.1073741831.100006560143339&type=3&fref=mentions>

<sup>2</sup> <https://www.facebook.com/narim.nead/videos/1402456783179133/>

<sup>3</sup> <https://www.facebook.com/narim.nead/videos/1402463153178496/>



## POLITICALLY MOTIVATED CRIMINAL PROSECUTION

### THE CASE OF SENTSOV, KOLCHENKO, AFANASIEV, CHIRNIY

On 24 July, the staff of the penitentiary colony informed **Aleksey Chirniy** and his lawyer Ilya Novikov that the statement of A. Chirniy made on 18 April, 2014 about the refusal to accept Russian citizenship in Crimea was not found. Based on this, the Ukrainian citizen will be «automatically» considered a citizen of the Russian Federation and will not be admitted to him by Ukrainian consuls. The lawyer was also informed that any negotiations on the procedure for transferring of Chirniy to serve the remaining term of imprisonment in Ukraine would be stopped. According to the lawyer, A. Chirniy is in penal colony No. 9 in the Shakhty town of the Rostov Region, RF<sup>4</sup>. Aleksei Chirniy is imprisoned in a politically motivated case against Ukrainian director Oleg Sentsov and activist Alexander Kolchenok.

### «26 FEBRUARY CASE»

«The 26 February case» is considered in two trials: the first — in the «Supreme Court» of Crimea regarding the case of **Ahtem Chiygoz** (in custody) as the «organizer of unrest» near the Crimean parliament, the second — in the «Central District Court» of Simferopol regarding the case of the other defendants as «participants in the riots» (**Ali Asanov** and **Mustafa Degermenji** are under house arrest, a preventive measure was chosen for **Eskender Katemirov**, **Eskender Emirvaliyev** and **Arsen Yunusov**, — personal bail).

On 2 July, the mother of Ahtem Chiygoz died — Alie Chiygoz. The wife of Ahtem Chiygoz — Elmira Ablyalimova filed a petition to the head of the pre-detention centre on granting Ahtem Chiygoz the opportunity to attend the funeral. The duty of the pre-detention centre of Simferopol refused to accept this application and referred to the fact that Sunday is a day off and the office of the remand prison does not work<sup>5</sup>.

On 5 July, the panel of judges of the «Supreme Court» of Crimea, under the leadership of Alla Ovchinnikova, dismissed the defence's appeal against the decision to extend the detention of Akhtem Chiygoz to 8 October, 2017<sup>6</sup>. The decision to extend the term and appeal this decision took place in the same court — the «Supreme Court» of Crimea.

### «HIZB UT-TACHRIR CASE»

There are 19 people imprisoned regarding the «Hizb ut-Tahrir case»: **Ruslan Zeitullaev**, **Rustem Vaitov**, **Nuri Primov**, **Ferat Sayfulaev** (convicted), **Inver Bekirov**, **Vadim Sirouk**, **Muslim Aliyev**, **Emir-Usein Kuku**, **Refat Alimov**, **Arsen Dzheparov**, **Enver Mamutov**, **Remzi Memetov**, **Zevri Abseitov**, **Rustem Abil'tarov**, **Teymur Abdullayev**, **Rustem Ismailov**, **Aider Saledinov**, **Uzeir Abdullayev** and **Emil Jemadenov** (in custody). They are accused of Part 1 of Article 205.5 of the Criminal Code of the Russian Federation (Establishment of a terrorist organization) and / or part 2 of Article 205.5 of the Criminal Code of the Russian Federation (Participation in a terrorist organization). Later, some of the defendants were also charged under article 278 of the Criminal Code of the Russian Federation (Forcible seizure of power or forcible retention of power).

<sup>4</sup> <https://www.facebook.com/Ilya.S.Novikov/posts/10208151597947477>

<sup>5</sup> <https://www.facebook.com/nikolay.polofov/posts/1436108503121208?pnref=story>

<sup>6</sup> [https://vs--krm.sudrf.ru/modules.php?name=sud\\_delo&srv\\_num=1&name\\_op=case&case\\_id=472386087&result=1&delo\\_id=4&new=4](https://vs--krm.sudrf.ru/modules.php?name=sud_delo&srv_num=1&name_op=case&case_id=472386087&result=1&delo_id=4&new=4)



On 1 July, ended the investigation into the case of **Vadim Siruk, Emir Usein Kuku, Inver Bekirov** and **Muslim Aliyev** that were detained on 11 February 2016, and **Refat Alimov** and **Ar-sen Jepparov** that were detained on 11 February 2016. They are charged under article 205 of the Criminal Code of the Russian Federation (Organization of the activities of a terrorist organization and participation in the activities of such an organization) and article 278 of the Criminal Code and article 30 of the Criminal Code of the Russian Federation (attempted forcible seizure of power). Then the case will be sent to the court<sup>7</sup>.

The management of the Simferopol pre-detention centre for more than a year does not give permission to **Emir-Usain Kuku** for a meeting with his relatives. According to the lawyer Alexei Ladin, in written refusals (**Annex 1**), FSB investigator Sergei Makhnev refers to Article 18 FL RF N 103-FL «On the detention of suspects and accused in committing crimes», but does not indicate the specific reason for the refusal<sup>8</sup>. Since the hearing on the case are being held in closed mode, the relatives no longer have the opportunity to see Emir-Usain Kuku.

On 7 July, the «Supreme Court» of Crimea, at the request of FSB investigator Sergei Makhnev, extended the terms of detention to **Zevri Abseitov, Enver Mamutov, Remzi Memetov** and **Rustem Abil'tarov** until 12 September, 2017<sup>9</sup>. The decision in respect of Mamutov and Memetov was made by Judge Galina Redko, in relation to Abseitov and Abil'tarov — Alexey Postov. The meetings were held in closed session<sup>10</sup>.

On 19 July, the judge of the «Supreme Court» of Crimea Alexei Afterdov declined the appeal and upheld the decision to extend the detention of **Enver Mamutov** and **Remzi Memetov**<sup>11</sup>.

On 20 July, the judges of the «Supreme Court» of Crimea Natalia Cherevatenko and Anatoly Osochenko upheld the decisions on the detention of **Zevri Abseitov** and **Rustem Abiltarov** on 7 July, 2017, respectively.<sup>12</sup>

On 19 July, the judge of the Supreme Court of Crimea, Andrei Paliy, upheld the decision to extend the detention of **Aidar Saedinov** until 11 August, 2017,<sup>13</sup> which was detained on 12 October, 2016.

On 27 July, the Supreme Court of the Russian Federation extended the term of imprisonment for **Ruslan Zeytullayev** for up to 15 years who is the earlier convicted figure of the Sevastopol «Hizb ut-Tahrir case». On the same day, Zeytullaev, in protest, announced the start of an indefinite hunger strike. He demanded a meeting with the Ukrainian consul and Ukrainian Ombudsman Valery Lutkovskaya.<sup>14</sup>

### «UKRAINIAN SABOTEURS' CASE»

On 4 July, the judge of the «Kiev District Court» of Simferopol, Alexei Tikhopy, extended the detention of **Vladimir Dudka, Dmitry Shtyblikov** and **Alexei Bessarabov** until 8 September, 2017<sup>15</sup>. The site of the court did not publish information on the conduction of this hearing. On 24 July, the judge of the «Supreme Court» of Crimea Anatoly Osochenko upheld this decision against

<sup>7</sup> <https://www.novayagazeta.ru/articles/2017/07/01/72977-mozhet-mne-otkazatsya-ot-very-tak-i-skazhite>

<sup>8</sup> <http://crimeahrg.org/en/political-prisoner-emir-usain-kuku-is-groundlessly-refused-to-meet-relatives/>

<sup>9</sup> [https://vs--krm.sudrf.ru/modules.php?name=sud\\_delo&srv\\_num=1&H\\_date=07.07.2017](https://vs--krm.sudrf.ru/modules.php?name=sud_delo&srv_num=1&H_date=07.07.2017)

<sup>10</sup> <https://www.facebook.com/emil.kurbedinov/posts/1510673605663898>

<sup>11</sup> [https://vs--krm.sudrf.ru/modules.php?name=sud\\_delo&srv\\_num=1&H\\_date=19.07.2017](https://vs--krm.sudrf.ru/modules.php?name=sud_delo&srv_num=1&H_date=19.07.2017)

<sup>12</sup> [https://vs--krm.sudrf.ru/modules.php?name=sud\\_delo&srv\\_num=1&H\\_date=20.07.2017](https://vs--krm.sudrf.ru/modules.php?name=sud_delo&srv_num=1&H_date=20.07.2017)

<sup>13</sup> [https://vs--krm.sudrf.ru/modules.php?name=sud\\_delo&srv\\_num=1&name\\_op=case&case\\_id=524087351&result=1&delo\\_id=4&new=4](https://vs--krm.sudrf.ru/modules.php?name=sud_delo&srv_num=1&name_op=case&case_id=524087351&result=1&delo_id=4&new=4)

<sup>14</sup> <https://www.facebook.com/anton.naumlyuk/posts/1646823905352543>

<sup>15</sup> <http://crimeahrg.org/en/ukrainian-saboteurs-left-in-the-jail-of-simferopol-until-8-september-2017/>





Vladimir Dudka, who was not delivered to the court session, he participated in it via the video communication. V. Dudka's relatives reported that he was not given copies of the appeal made by the defence<sup>16</sup>.

On 13 July, lawyer of **Redvan Suleymanov** (charged under Article 35 § 2, part 2 of Article 207 of the Criminal Code of the RF — A knowingly false report about an act of terrorism committed by a group of persons by prior conspiracy), Emil Kurbedinov filed a petition about the new facts in the case, which must be taken into account in the sentencing; the petition was filed to the judge of the Zheleznodorozhny District Court of Simferopol, Dmitry Mikhailov. On 29 June, 2017 a hearing was held during which the results of the inspection of the work and usage of «state property» by LLC «Marine Directorate» were heard. Based on the audit results, the management of this enterprise committed a number of serious financial violations that will be investigated in criminal cases. However, it was the Sea Directorate LLC who filed a lawsuit against R. Suleymanov within the framework of the criminal case, in which it demands from him to compensate the huge amount of «lost profits» as a result of the «false report on the terrorist act». The defence reasonably believes that in such a way LLC «Maritime Directorate», in fact, tries to hide its crimes — violations in the financial and economic activities of the enterprise. The lawyer asks the judge to take into account this important fact when considering the case (*Annex 2*).

On 17 July, the Kyiv District Court of Simferopol sentenced Ukrainian citizen Alexei Stogniy to 3 years and 6 months of imprisonment under Part 1 of Article 223.1 of the Criminal Code of the Russian Federation (Illegal manufacture of explosives, illegal manufacture, alteration or repair of explosive devices)<sup>17</sup>. The verdict completely contradicts the statements of the Russian Federal Security Service about the participation of A. Stogniy in espionage and preparation of sabotage. The verdict indicates that on 16 November, 2016 — the date of initiation of the case in the relations of the Ukrainian and the date of his detention. However, much earlier, on 1 November, 2016, the Rossiya 1 television channel published a video of the staging interrogation where Stogniy announced about the fact of espionage in favour of Ukraine<sup>18</sup>.

## VLADIMIR BALUKH CASE

In July, five hearings were held in the case of Vladimir Balukh — on 20, 24, 27, 28 and 31 July. According to lawyers and observers that were present at the trial, Judge Maria Bedritskaya was in a hurry to complete the trial until 1 August. During all sessions, the judge refused to defence of a number of witnesses during interrogation, to carry out actions to establish the legality of the permanent absence of witnesses from the side of FSB officers and their drivers, to conduct additional or repeated examinations on ammunition.

On 27 July, at a hearing in the Razdolnensky District Court, the results of the examination of cartridges that FSS officers allegedly found in the home of Balukh were presented. According to the results of the examination, the cartridges were manufactured in 1982 in Barnaul (Russia). No information was provided to confirm the connection between the patrons and V. Balukh. During the hearing, Vladimir Balukh's health deteriorated, and he was taken to the hospital. But after providing first aid, he was brought back to court, and the hearing continued<sup>19</sup>.

<sup>16</sup> <http://crimeahrg.org/verhovnyiy-sud-kryima-ostavil-ukraintsa-vladimira-dudku-v-sizo-do-8-sentyabrya/>

<sup>17</sup> <http://crimeahrg.org/kryimchanina-stogniya-kotorogo-rossiyskie-smi-nazyivali-diversantom-osudili-na-3-5-goda/>

<sup>18</sup> [https://player.vgtrk.com/iframe/video/id/1597621/start\\_zoom/true/showZoomBtn/false/sid/vesti/isPlay/true/?acc\\_video\\_id=698436](https://player.vgtrk.com/iframe/video/id/1597621/start_zoom/true/showZoomBtn/false/sid/vesti/isPlay/true/?acc_video_id=698436)

<sup>19</sup> <http://crimeahrg.org/en/crimean-stogniy-called-saboteur-by-russian-mass-media-sentenced-to-3-5-years/>



On 28 July, Judge Maria Bedritskaya rejected the lawyers' request to interrogate an expert who conducted an examination of ammunition.

On 31 July, Vladimir Balukh told the court that for a long time his house was being monitored, and during the search the police officers forbade him to move around the house. According to the investigator, ammunition was found in the attic where Balukh was not in 1997. After questioning the defendant, the judge refused to question the witnesses again for clarifying the reasons for the discrepancies between the testimonies of the witnesses and V. Balukh about the same circumstances. The judge announced the completion of the judicial investigation in the case.





## FREEDOM OF SPEECH AND EXPRESSION OF OPINIONS\*

On 4 July, the judge of the «Soviet Justice of the Peace» of Crimea, Vyacheslav Shevchenko, considered a complaint against the decision of the «Soviet Justice of the Peace» to convict member of the Mejlis **Rustem Mennanov** under article 13.15 of the Administrative Code of the Russian Federation (Abuse of the freedom of mass information in the form of spreading of information on an organization included in the list of banned in the Russian Federation) for mentioning in the social networks of the Mejlis without specifying that the association is prohibited on the territory of the Russian Federation. Judge Shevchenko upheld this decision regarding the fine of 2,000 rubles from Mennanov<sup>21</sup>.

On 7 July, the judge of the «Pervomaisky District Court» Klimova Anna Mikhailovna sentenced the resident of Sevastopol, **Emil Minasov**, to 1 year and 3 months of imprisonment in a settlement colony for publication in social networks. He was found guilty of four episodes, which were qualified under Part 1 of Article 282 of the Criminal Code of the Russian Federation (Actions aimed at inciting hatred or enmity, as well as humiliating the dignity of a person or a group of persons on grounds of gender, race, nationality, language, origin, attitude to religion, as well as belonging to a social group, committed publicly or using mass media or information and telecommunication networks, including the Internet network)<sup>22</sup>. When publishing this information news agency «Crimea Inform» refers to the press service of the FSS of the Russian Federation<sup>23</sup>, but the content of Minasov's publications is not specified. On his Facebook page there are links to a petition on the release of prisoners on the «26 February case»<sup>24</sup>, and an interview with Lenur Islyamov who is the organizer of the «blockade of Crimea» in Kherson region<sup>25</sup>.

On 21 July, the State Duma of the Russian Federation adopted two laws that are aimed at additional restrictions in the field of spreading of information and access to it. The Law «On Amendments to the Federal Law «On Information, Information Technologies and Information Protection» with the new name «On Amendments to Articles 10.1 and 15.4 of the Federal Law «On Information, Information Technologies and Information Protection»<sup>26</sup> requires the administrators of instant messaging services (instant messengers) from 1 January, 2018 to establish the identity of users by phone and at the request of the authorities of the Russian Federation to limit users to the transmission and reception of messages. Another law «On Amendments to the Federal Law «On Information, Information Technologies and Information Protection»<sup>27</sup> from 1 November, 2017 requires providers to restrict access to VPN services (anonymizers). Both laws were submitted on 25 July for signing to the president of the Russian Federation. If signed, the law will de facto extend to the territory of Crimea.

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

<sup>21</sup> The decision of the «Soviet Justice of the Peace» on the case № 12-8/2017 [https://sovetskiy-krm.sudrf.ru/modules.php?name=sud\\_delo&srv\\_num=1&name\\_op=doc&number=479808732&delo\\_id=1502001&new=0&text\\_number=1](https://sovetskiy-krm.sudrf.ru/modules.php?name=sud_delo&srv_num=1&name_op=doc&number=479808732&delo_id=1502001&new=0&text_number=1)

<sup>22</sup> The web-site of the «Pervomaisky District Court»: [https://pervomaiskiy-krm.sudrf.ru/modules.php?name=sud\\_delo&srv\\_num=1&name\\_op=r&delo\\_id=1540006&case\\_type=0&new=0&U1\\_DEFENDANT\\_NAMESS=%CC%E8%ED%E0%F1%EE%E2+%DD.&U1\\_CASE\\_CASE\\_NUMBERSS=&delo\\_table=U1\\_CASE&U1\\_CASE\\_ENTRY\\_DATE1D=&U1\\_CASE\\_ENTRY\\_DATE2D=&U1\\_CASE\\_PREV\\_CASE\\_NUMBERSS=&U1\\_CASE\\_MASTER\\_CASE\\_NUMBERSS=&U1\\_CASE\\_JUDGE=&U1\\_CASE\\_RESULT\\_DATE1D=&U1\\_CASE\\_RESULT\\_DATE2D=&U1\\_CASE\\_RESULT=&U1\\_CASE\\_BUILDING\\_ID=&U1\\_EVENT\\_EVENT\\_NAME=&U1\\_DEFENDANT\\_LAW\\_ARTICLESS=&U1\\_DEFENDANT\\_RESULT\\_DATE1D=&U1\\_DEFENDANT\\_RESULT\\_DATE2D=&U1\\_DEFENDANT\\_RESULT=&U1\\_DOCUMENT\\_PUBL\\_DATE1D=&U1\\_DOCUMENT\\_PUBL\\_DATE2D=&U1\\_CASE\\_VALIDITY\\_DATE1D=&U1\\_CASE\\_VALIDITY\\_DATE2D=&Submit=%CD%E0%E9%F2%E8#](https://pervomaiskiy-krm.sudrf.ru/modules.php?name=sud_delo&srv_num=1&name_op=r&delo_id=1540006&case_type=0&new=0&U1_DEFENDANT_NAMESS=%CC%E8%ED%E0%F1%EE%E2+%DD.&U1_CASE_CASE_NUMBERSS=&delo_table=U1_CASE&U1_CASE_ENTRY_DATE1D=&U1_CASE_ENTRY_DATE2D=&U1_CASE_PREV_CASE_NUMBERSS=&U1_CASE_MASTER_CASE_NUMBERSS=&U1_CASE_JUDGE=&U1_CASE_RESULT_DATE1D=&U1_CASE_RESULT_DATE2D=&U1_CASE_RESULT=&U1_CASE_BUILDING_ID=&U1_EVENT_EVENT_NAME=&U1_DEFENDANT_LAW_ARTICLESS=&U1_DEFENDANT_RESULT_DATE1D=&U1_DEFENDANT_RESULT_DATE2D=&U1_DEFENDANT_RESULT=&U1_DOCUMENT_PUBL_DATE1D=&U1_DOCUMENT_PUBL_DATE2D=&U1_CASE_VALIDITY_DATE1D=&U1_CASE_VALIDITY_DATE2D=&Submit=%CD%E0%E9%F2%E8#)

<sup>23</sup> <http://www.c-inform.info/news/id/54824>

<sup>24</sup> [https://www.facebook.com/permalink.php?story\\_fbid=1704389549843989&id=100008188801698](https://www.facebook.com/permalink.php?story_fbid=1704389549843989&id=100008188801698)

<sup>25</sup> <https://www.facebook.com/profile.php?id=100008188801698>

<sup>26</sup> [http://asozd2.duma.gov.ru/main.nsf/\(Spravka\)?OpenAgent&RN=184222-7&02](http://asozd2.duma.gov.ru/main.nsf/(Spravka)?OpenAgent&RN=184222-7&02)

<sup>27</sup> [http://asozd2.duma.gov.ru/main.nsf/\(Spravka\)?OpenAgent&RN=195446-7&02](http://asozd2.duma.gov.ru/main.nsf/(Spravka)?OpenAgent&RN=195446-7&02)



## LIMITATION OF ACCESS TO INFORMATION

In July, the Crimean Human Rights Group checked the availability of 27 Internet sites in Crimea, 22 of which — Ukrainian information resources, including sites of major Ukrainian TV channels. Monitoring of access to sites was carried out with the help of networks of five different providers in five Crimean cities: BelNet (Belogorsk), Sevstar (Sevastopol), Triolan (Simferopol), Bospor (Kerch), Yaltaet (Yalta). Monitoring showed that 11 sites out of 27 are blocked by all five providers (Censor.net, 15 minutes, European truth, Crimea SOS, Gromadske radio, Ukrinform, Channel 5, Focus, Information resistance, Next., Linkedin, RBC) (*Annex 3*). However, the site of Roskomnadzor has information only about five sites out of 27 that are blocked in the territory of the Russian Federation by court decisions. Thus, it is not known for what reasons other sites are blocked. Full information on the monitoring results is available on the CHRГ website<sup>28</sup>.

Unreasonable and illegal blocking of media sites is a violation of freedom of speech and access to information. This limits the free flow of information on the Internet. The actions of the Russian authorities fail to fulfil their commitments within the OSCE, in particular those reflected in the 2010 Dushanbe Declaration<sup>29</sup>.

## OBSTRUCTION OF JOURNALISTIC ACTIVITIES

On 24 July, the order made by «Acting Director of the Department of Internal Policy of the City of Sevastopol» V.L. Tyunin «On the observance by representatives of the media of the business style of clothing when visiting the events of the Government of Sevastopol»<sup>30</sup> was published<sup>31</sup>. According to the order, non-compliance with the requirements for appearance may become the basis for preventing journalists from taking part in the events of the Governor and the Government of Sevastopol. The order allows you to subjectively assess the appearance of a journalist and selectively not allow media representatives to attend official events.

## NIKOLAI SEMENA CASE

On 7 and 18 July two court hearings were held in the case of journalist Nikolai Semena, who is charged under part 2 of Article 280.1 of the Criminal Code of the Russian Federation (Public calls for actions aimed at violating the territorial integrity of the Russian Federation using the media) for his article in the media. During the first hearing, the director of the translation agency was questioned, who translated a number of case materials for the FSS investigative bodies. However, during the interrogation it became clear that the translation of the text, in fact, was not carried out, because the director only signed the texts of the translation, which he was issued by the investigator in the case. During the second hearing, a review of the linguist Elena Novozhilova was presented, which confirmed the absence of calls for violation of territorial integrity in the text of Semena. Also, criminalist Vladimir Rubashny was questioned, who described Semena as a person not susceptible to criminal activity. In addition, the court attached to the case materials the UNGA Resolution «Situation in the field of human rights in the Autonomous Republic of Crimea and the city of Sevastopol (Ukraine)».

<sup>28</sup> [http://crimeahrg.org/en/at-least-22-ukrainian-internet-mass-media-are-in-accessible-in-crimea-in-full-or-in-part-monitoring\\_trashed/](http://crimeahrg.org/en/at-least-22-ukrainian-internet-mass-media-are-in-accessible-in-crimea-in-full-or-in-part-monitoring_trashed/)

<sup>29</sup> <http://www.osce.org/ru/fom/88300?download=true>

<sup>30</sup> <https://sevastopol.gov.ru/files/iblock/cc4/prikaz-42.pdf>

<sup>31</sup> <https://sevastopol.gov.ru/docs/239/40088/>



## ILMI UMEROV CASE

On July 5, 12, 19 and 26, the «Simferopol District Court» held a hearing on the case of Ilmi Umerov, who is charged under part 2 of Article 280.1 of the Criminal Code of the Russian Federation «Public appeals for the implementation of actions aimed at violating the territorial integrity of the Russian Federation, committed using information and telecommunication networks (including the Internet)» for his public statements that Crimea is the territory of Ukraine.

On 12 July, during the hearing, a comparison of the Crimean Tatar statements by Ilmi Umerov on the air of the ATP channel with a translation into Russian, which is in the materials of the case was made. According to Ilmi Umerov<sup>32</sup> and lawyer Mark Feigin, the comparison showed that the translator, Saledinov, during the translation distorted the meaning of Ilmi Umerov's utterances and added words that Umerov did not say. Interpreter Saledinov said that the FSS officers called him five times to the FSS to discuss the translation. The FSS's linguistic examination formed the basis of Umerov's accusation, but was not conducted on the basis of Umerov's direct words, but on the basis of the translation made by Saledinov.

Interrogation of the interpreter showed that the investigator had falsified the case materials related to the translation. On 26 July, the investigator was questioned in the case of Igor Skripka, who could not explain the facts of falsification of evidence. However, the court ignored the existence of falsifications with the translation and refused to exclude such evidence from the case as unacceptable.

<sup>32</sup> <https://www.facebook.com/ayshe.umerova/videos/1407782509259569/>



## FREEDOM OF PEACEFUL ASSEMBLY

On 3 July, the Sevastopol city branch of the Communist Party of the Russian Federation (CPRF) submitted a notification to the Sevastopol administration about holding a rally on 15 July at Nakhimov Square in the framework of the All-Russian protest action «For Russia without a criminal oligarchy and bureaucratic chaos.» On 5 July director of the Department of Public Communications of the city of Sevastopol, Ivan Chikharev refused to agree on the holding of the rally. He pointed out that the meeting would «impede the movement of pedestrians.» The Sevastopol branch of the Communist Party appealed to the court to appeal the refusal. On 17 July, the judge of the Leninsky District Court of Sevastopol, Konstantin Kukurekin, refused to satisfy the claim and found the refusal to hold a mass event motivated<sup>33</sup>.

On 6 July, a judge of the Bakhchisarai District Court, Olga Morozko, sentenced an activist from Bakhchisarai **Emil Bilyalov** to an administrative fine of 150,000 rubles, part 8, article 20.2 of the Administrative Code of the Russian Federation (repeated violation of the procedure for holding a rally, meetings)<sup>34</sup> On April 13, 2017 Emily Bilyalov was near the house of Seydamet Mustafayev, who was detained for his post in the social network. Previously, Belyalov was fined for being near the places of mass searches and arrests in Bakhchisarai on 12 May, 2016. In both cases, police officers and judges qualified his actions as participation in an unsanctioned rally<sup>35</sup>.

On 13 July, activist **Nariman Memedinov** was summoned for interrogation to the Department of the Ministry of Internal Affairs of the Russian Federation in Bakhchisaray district in the administrative case against him under Part 8 of Article 20.2 of the Administrative Code of the Russian Federation (repeated violation of the procedure for holding a rally, meetings)<sup>36</sup>. In the Ministry of Internal Affairs, Memedinov was given a protocol of 13 July, 2017 on administrative violation under part 6.1 of Article 20.2 of the Administrative Code of the Russian Federation (participation in an unsanctioned rally that hinders the movement of the public)<sup>37</sup>. He was accused that on April 13, 2017 in Bakhchisaray he was near the house where Seydam Mustafayev was searched and detained. The protocol was made by former employee of the Ministry of Internal Affairs of Ukraine, «Major of Police of the Russian Federation» Georgy Levykh.

On the same day, 13 July, a judge of the «Bakhchisaray District Court» Tatyana Gotovkina fined Memedinov for 10,000 rubles under part 6.1 of Article 20.2 of the Code of Administrative Offenses of the Russian Federation for participation in an unsanctioned rally<sup>38</sup>.

<sup>33</sup> Решение «Ленинского районного суда Севастополя» по делу № 2а-2116/2017 [https://leninskiy--sev.sudrf.ru/modules.php?name=sud\\_delo&srv\\_num=1&name\\_op=doc&number=514036383&dello\\_id=1540005&new=&text\\_number=1](https://leninskiy--sev.sudrf.ru/modules.php?name=sud_delo&srv_num=1&name_op=doc&number=514036383&dello_id=1540005&new=&text_number=1)

<sup>34</sup> Постановление «Бахчисарайского районного суда» от 30.06.2017 по делу № 5-256/2017 [https://bahchisarai--krm.sudrf.ru/modules.php?name=sud\\_delo&srv\\_num=1&name\\_op=doc&number=473590286&dello\\_id=1500001&new=0&text\\_number=1](https://bahchisarai--krm.sudrf.ru/modules.php?name=sud_delo&srv_num=1&name_op=doc&number=473590286&dello_id=1500001&new=0&text_number=1)

<sup>35</sup> <https://www.facebook.com/server.mustafayev/videos/1679945648742561/>

<sup>36</sup> <https://www.facebook.com/crimeahrg/posts/1926735307612101:0>

<sup>37</sup> <https://www.facebook.com/photo.php?fbid=359099347843120>

<sup>38</sup> <https://www.facebook.com/crimeansolidarity/videos/469239770110151/>



## ***FREEDOM OF THOUGHT, CONSCIENCE AND RELIGION***

On 17 July, the Supreme Court of the Russian Federation upheld the decision to recognize the religious organization «Jehovah's Witnesses» as extremist and prohibit its activities on the territory of the Russian Federation<sup>39</sup>. Thus, the ban on the activities of Jehovah's Witnesses comes into force and extends to the territory of Crimea.

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<sup>39</sup> <http://www.interfax.ru/russia/570941>



## VIOLATIONS OF INTERNATIONAL HUMANITARIAN LAW

### FORCING TO MILITARY SERVICE AND PROPAGANDA FOR THE VOLUNTARY ENTRY INTO THE ARMY OF THE OCCUPYING COUNTRY

On 18 July, the website of the TV and Radio Company of the Armed Forces of the Russian Federation Zvezda reported that within the framework of the 2017 spring draft campaign, approximately 400 residents of Sevastopol are called to the Armed Forces of the Russian Federation, 10 of them are sent to serve in the territory of the Russian Federation to join the Airborne Forces of the Russian Federation<sup>40</sup>.

On 30 July in Sevastopol there was another action of propaganda of contract service in the Russian army. Agitation booklets about the service in the 126th separate coastal defence brigade and the 197th brigade of landing ships of the Black Sea Fleet of the Russian Federation were distributed at the «point of selection for military service on contract». The agitation was conducted during the celebration of the day of the Navy on Nakhimov Square in Sevastopol (**Annex 4 and Annex 5**)<sup>41</sup>.

### THE REVIEW WAS PREPARED BY:

**Olga Skrypnyk**, *coordinator of the Crimean Human Rights Group;*

**Vissarion Aseev**, *analyst of the Crimean Human Rights Group;*

**Alexander Sedov**, *analyst of the Crimean Human Rights Group.*

<sup>40</sup> <https://tvzvezda.ru/news/forces/content/e5906d58a89544c7c02aaeae2390e988027be19d44f8be88e7d5179cbabcfa01>

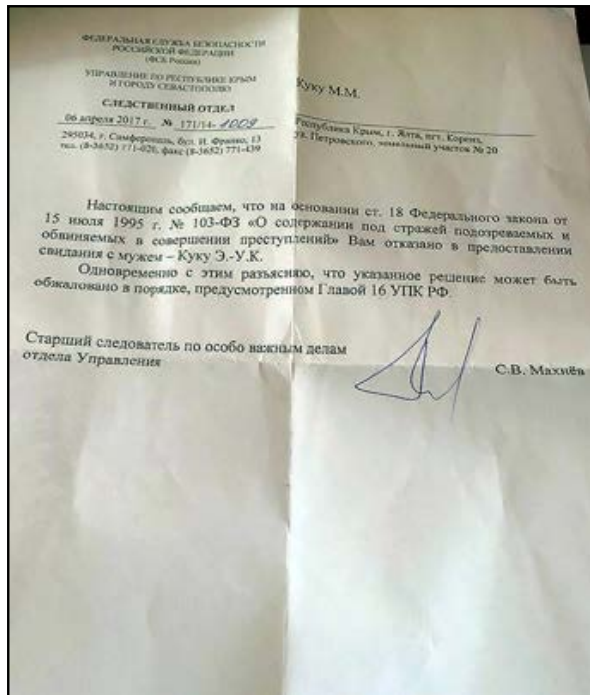
<sup>41</sup> <http://crimeahrg.org/en/crimean-citizens-are-recruited-into-the-russian-army-in-violation-of-the-geneva-convention-on-the-protection-of-civilian-persons-in-time-of-war-on-30-july-2017-another-action-was-held-in-sevastopol-ca/>





## ANNEXES

### ANNEX 1



*The refusals of FSB' investigator Sergey Makhnev to providing visits for Emir-Usein Kuku's relatives in the Simferopol' pre-trial establishment (SIZO)*





ANNEX 2

Судье железнодорожного районного суда  
города Симферополя  
Михайлову Д.О.

Адвокат  
Курбединов Э.М.  
В интересах Сулейманова Р.Р.  
ч. 2 ст. 35, ч. 2 ст. 207 УК РФ

ХОДАТАЙТСТВО

На официальном веб-сайте «Счетной палаты Республики Крым» имеется следующая информация, от 29.06.2017 г., под заголовком - «Состоялось расширенное заседание коллегии счетной палаты при участии главы Республики Крым» -

«29 июня состоялось расширенное заседание Коллегии Счетной палаты Республики Крым, в работе которого приняли участие Глава Республики Крым, Председатель Совета министров Республики Крым Сергей Аксёнов, Заместитель Председателя Совета министров Республики Крым Виталий Нахлупин, Министр транспорта Республики Крым Анатолий Волков, Генеральный директор ООО «Морская дирекция» Сергей Якушев.

На заседании были рассмотрены итоги экспертно-аналитического мероприятия по обследованию деятельности, анализу и оценке эффективности управления и распоряжения государственным имуществом Республики Крым в ООО «Морская дирекция».

Сергей Аксёнов отметил, что на сегодняшний день проведена большая работа: «Предварительные результаты мы получили от Счетной палаты. Могу сказать, что перспективу вижу следующую: десятка два уголовных дел, как минимум, при ближайшем рассмотрении. Исходя из анализа, получены конкретные результаты, понятны механизмы и кто за всем этим стоит, но это дело уже правоохранительных органов. Правоохранители, Федеральная служба безопасности держат этот процесс на контроле. Однако уверен, что мы с вами сможем выровнять работу предприятия, сделать ее прозрачной, эффективной и выполнить главную задачу – обеспечить своевременную перевозку людей».

Глава республики выразил благодарность сотрудникам Счетной палаты за проделанный пласт работы и отметил, что на сегодня цели понятны – приведение финансовой деятельности проверенных объектов в порядок, для того чтобы правительство Республики Крым осуществляло реальный контроль за работой переправы.»

На основании вышесказанного, у защиты имеются обоснованные опасения, что все «упущенные выгоды», которые в настоящем уголовном деле ООО «Морская дирекция» пытается приписать моему подзащитному Сулейманову Р.Р., являются ничем иным как способом скрыть свои нарушения в финансово-хозяйственной деятельности предприятия и самим уйти от уголовной ответственности, о которой заявил Аксёнов!

При сложившихся обстоятельствах, ООО «Морская дирекция» должна отказаться от всех финансовых претензий к Сулейманову, а прокурор должен требовать, как минимум, переквалификации деяния на ч. 1 ст. 207 УК и предоставления соответствующей информации от счетной палаты касаясь деятельности ООО «Морская дирекция» за интересующий нас период.

Прошу суд приобщить к материалам дела настоящее ходатайство и принять во внимание вышесказанные факты при вынесении приговора в совещательной комнате и при рассмотрении вопроса правильной квалификации по части вменяемой статьи.

Адвокат  
Курбединов Э.М.

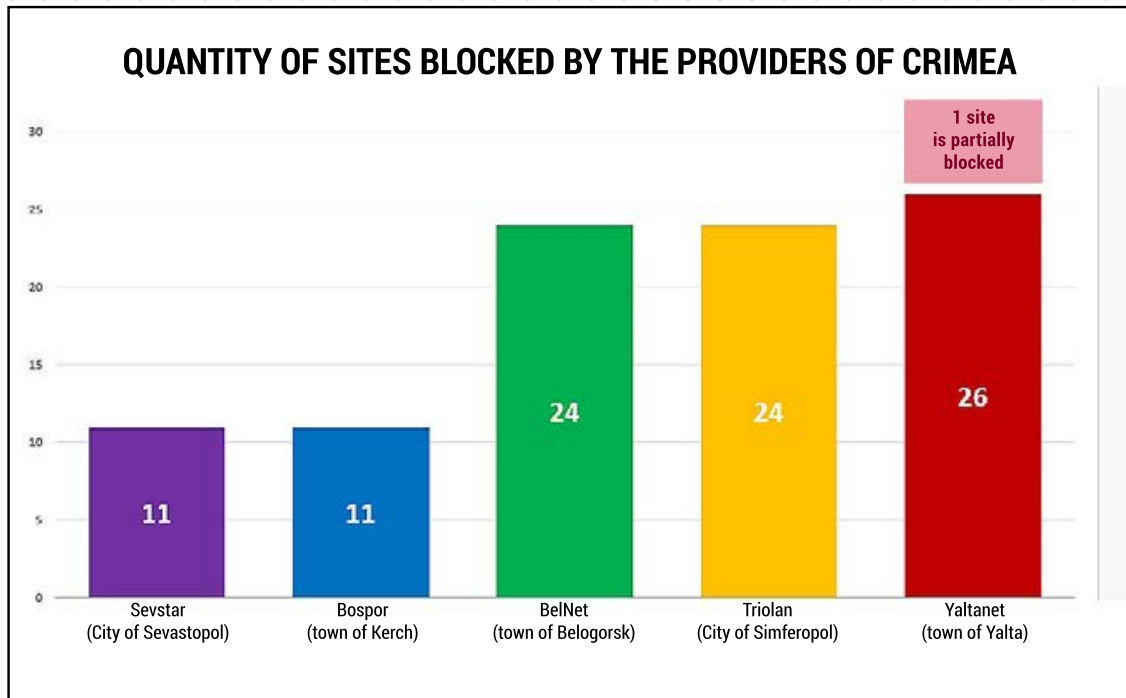


13.07.2017 г.

*The appeal of Redvan Suleymanov's lawyer ("the case of Ukrainian saboteurs") E. Kurbedinov to the judge of the "Zheleznodorozhnyy District Court" of Simferopol D. Михайлов on new facts in the case concerning the alleged damage to "Marine Directorate" LLC (Morskaya direkciya), July 13, 2017.*



ANNEX 3



*Quantity of sites blocked by the providers of Crimea*



ANNEX 4-5



The agitation booklet's fragment on appeal to call to the contract military service of the 126th separate brigade of the coastal defense of the Russian Federation that was distributed among the civilian population during the Russian Navy Day celebration, Sevastopol, July 30, 2017.



The agitation booklet's fragment on appeal to call to the contract military service of the 197th brigade of landing ships of the Black Sea Fleet that was distributed among the civilian population during the Russian Navy Day celebration, Sevastopol, July 30, 2017.