



CRIMEAN HUMAN RIGHTS GROUP

e-mail: crimeahrg@gmail.com

website: crimeahrg.org

CRIMEAN HUMAN RIGHTS SITUATION REVIEW

January 2019

The monitoring review was prepared
by the Crimean Human Rights Group
on the basis of materials collected
in January 2019

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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

SEARCHES AND DETENTIONS

On January 11th the houses of three Crimean Tatars: **Mr. Osman Osmanov, Mr. Ernest Aliyev, and Mr. Server Bariyev** — were searched in the settlement of Razdolnoye under suspicion of membership in 'Hizb-ut-Tahrir' organization. The searches were carried out by Center E people (RF MIA Central Department for Fighting with Extremism). They checked literature, first of all, Islamic one. One of the searched informed that there had been many armed men in front of the building during the search.

According to the CHRГ information, the Center E representatives showed only s 'court' order on examining the premise, not searching. During the examinations, nothing was withdrawn, and no accusation was made.¹

On January 23rd in the Fontany, Simferopol microdistrict, the Arifovys' house was searched. According to the activists' information, the search was carried in connection with s criminal case against **Ms Evelina Arifova**. A tablet PC was withdrawn during the search.

On January 23rd the house of Ms Elmira Abultarova was searched in the settlement of Krasnogvardeyskoye due to s criminal case against her son — **Mr. Bekir Abultarov**. During the search s laptop and mobile phones were withdrawn.²

Ms Evelina Arifova and Mr Bekir Abultarov were not at home during the search. The FSB men informed that they were accused under RF CC Article 208-2 (*involvement into an illegal military unit*). According to the RF FSB statement, they are suspected of joining N.Chelebidjikhhan Batallion quartered in Kherson Region.³

On January 27th RF MIA men detained **Mr. Maksim Sokurenko**, s Crimean resident and s Ukrainian national, in Simferopol for splashing s sculptural structure symbolizing Russian military men who participated in the occupation of Crimea in 2014, with red paint. The RF MIA for Crimea Press Office informed that Mr Sokurenko was put under arrest and s criminal case under RF CC Article 214-2 (*Vandalism*) was started against him.⁴ It took s couple of hours to clean the structure of the paint. On January 29th Ms Evelina Fedorenko, s judge of 'Tsentralny District Court of Simferopol', upheld s motion of investigator A.I.Govorunov on putting Maksim Sokurenko under arrest.⁵

¹ CHRГ |Everybody's home in Crimea can be searched under the pretext of examining — human rights experts <https://crimeahrg.org/obyiski-pod-vidom-obsledovaniy-zhilishha-mogut-provesti-u-lyubogo-v-kryimu-pravozashhitnik/>

² <https://www.facebook.com/crimeahrg/posts/2233776636907965>

³ CHRГ | Phones, s tablet PC and s laptop withdrawn from the Crimeans during the searches <https://crimeahrg.org/vo-vremya-obyiskov-u-kryimchan-izyali-telefoniy-planshet-i-noutbuk/>

⁴ RF MIA for Republic o Crimea' | A criminal case against s man suspected of act of vandalism has been starteda <https://82.xn--b1aew.xn--p1ai/news/item/15634487/>

⁵ 'Tsentralny District Court of Simferopol' List of cases to be heard on 29 January 2019. Case 3/1-14/2019 https://centr-simp-h--krm.sudrf.ru/modules.php?name=sud_delo&srv_num=1&H_date=29.01.2019



POLITICALLY MOTIVATED CRIMINAL PROSECUTION

«CASE OF CRIMEAN MUSLIMS»

In January the number of people in custody within the 'Crimean Muslims Case' totaled 29:

- **Mr Ruslan Zeytullayev, Mr Rustem Vaitov, Mr Nuri Primov, Mr Ferat Sayfullayev:** have been brought in guilty and are in the colonies on the RF territory;
- **Mr Inver Bekirov, Mr Vadim Siruk, Mr Muslim Aliyev, Mr. Emir Usein Kuku, Mr. Refat Alimov, Mr. Arsen Djepparov, Mr Enver Mamutov, Mr Remzi Memetov, Mr Zevri Abseitov, Mr Rustem Abil'tarov:** the case is being considered at the RF court, and they are in Rostov-na-Donu Detention Center;
- **Mr Teymur Abdullayev, Mr Rustem Ismailov, Mr Ayder Saledinov, Mr Uzeir Abdullayev, Mr Emil' Djemadenov, Mr Marlen Asanov, Mr Seyran Saliyev, Mr Memet Belialov, Mr Timur Ibragimov, Mr Server Zakiryayev, Mr Ernes Ametov, Mr. Enver Seytosmanov, Mr Server Mustafayev, Mr Edem Smailov:** s case is at pre-court investigation stage, and they are in Simferopol Detention Center.

All have been charged with 'Hizb-ut-Tahrir' membership, RF CC Article 205.1 (*Establishment of terrorist organization*) and/or RF CC Article 205.5-2 (*Membership in the terrorist organization*). Later some defendants were charged under RF CC Article 278 (*Violent upheaval or violent power retention*).

- **Mr Nariman Memedeminov** is charged with publishing s video with 'Hizb-ut-Tahrir' symbols, RF CC Article 205.2-2 (*Public appeals to terrorist activities, public justification of terrorism or propaganda of terrorism*).

On January 10th the lawyers informed that the RF FSB had changed s charge for **Mr. Inver Bekirov** from RF CC Article 205.5-2 (*membership in s terrorist organization*) to RF CC Article 205.5-1 (*management of terrorist organization activities*).⁶ This would cause an extended imprisonment period in case of s guilty verdict.

On January 11th Ms Nelia Farina, s 'SCRC'⁷ judge, upheld s decision on extending s detention period for **Mr. Nariman Memedeminov** till December 16th 2018. By that time Mr. Memedeminov had been already awarded s new judgement on extending the detention period till February 15th⁸, so the appeal consideration was purely for record. On January 18th Ms Liudmila Kapustina, s 'SCRC judge', upheld s decision on keeping the activist in custody till February 15th 2019.⁹

On January 16th Ms. Alla Ovchinnikova, and Mr. Yuriy Latynin, 'SCRC' judges', upheld s judgement on keeping **Mr. Memet Belialov and Mr. Seyran Saliyev** in custody till February 9th 2019.¹⁰ On January 17th Ms Yelena Mikhal'kova, s 'SCRC judge', passed the same judgement for **Mr. Marlen Asanov**.¹¹

⁶ Krym. Realii | Russian Investigation filed s new charge against Hizb-ut-Tahrir Yalta Case defendants <https://ru.krymr.com/a/news-delo-hizb-ut-tahrir-yalta-novoe-obvinenie/29702267.html>

⁷ Supreme Court of Republic of Crimea, SCRC

⁸ 'SCRC' | List of cases to be heard on 11 January 2019. Case 22K-150/2019 https://vs--krm.sudrf.ru/modules.php?name=sud_delo&srv_num=1&H_date=11.01.2019

⁹ 'SCRC' | List of cases to be heard on 18 January 2019. Case 22K-287/2019 https://vs--krm.sudrf.ru/modules.php?name=sud_delo&srv_num=1&H_date=18.01.2019

¹⁰ 'SCRC' | List of cases to be heard on 16 January 2019. Cases 22K-122/2019 and 22K-124/2019 https://vs--krm.sudrf.ru/modules.php?name=sud_delo&srv_num=1&H_date=16.01.2019

¹¹ 'SCRC' | List of cases to be heard on 17 January 2019. Cases 22K-123/2019 and 22K-285/2019 https://vs--krm.sudrf.ru/modules.php?name=sud_delo&srv_num=1&H_date=17.01.2019



On January 22nd Ms. Tatiana Mel'nik, s 'SCRC' judge, upheld s decision on keeping in custody for **Mr. Edem Smailov and Mr. Server Mustafayev** till December 9th 2018. By that time they had been already awarded s new judgement on extending the detention period till February 9th so the appeal consideration was purely for record.¹²

On January 21st the first court session on the case of **Mr Teymur Abdullayev, Mr. Rustem Ismailov, Mr Ayder Saledinov, Mr. Uzeir Abdullayev and Mr Emil' Djemadenov** was held in the North Caucasus Area Military Court. The case is being considered by s panel chaired by Mr. Anatolij Kolesnik.

«TABLIGHI JAMAAT CASE»

On January 22nd Mr. Sergey Pogrebniak, s 'SCRC' judge, passed sentences on the defendants charged with membership in the TABLIGHI JAMAAT religious organization. **Mr. Arsen Kubedinov, Mr. Seyran Mustafayev and Mr.Taliat Abdurakhmanov** are sentenced to 2.5 years of suspended imprisonment under RF CC Article 282.2-2 (*membership in the extremist recognized organization*), **Mr. Renat Suleymanov** — to 4 years in the standard regime penal colony under RF CC Article 282.2-1 (*creation of extremist recognized organization*).¹³

All four Muslims were detained in October 2017. Mr Suleymanov has spent all this time in the Simferopol Detention Center.

«UKRAINIAN SABOTEURS' CASE»

In January 13 people accused on detaining with espionage or preparation of sabotage by RF FSB were in custody: **Mr Yevgeniy Panov, Mr Andrey Zakhthey, Mr Vladimir Prisich, Mr Vladimir Dudka, Mr Dmitriy Shtyblikov, Mr Aleksey Bessarabov, Mr Gleb Shabliy, Mr Aleksey Stogniy, Mr Gennadiy Limeshko, Ms Anna Sukhonosova, Mr Dmitriy Dolgoplov, Mr Konstantin Davydenko, Mr Yunus Masharipov.** Unlawful methods of investigation and torturing for securing confessions were recorded in these cases.

On January 10th Mr. Igor Kotelianets informed that his brother — **Mr. Yevgeniy Panov** — was being convoyed from the Tiumen Region to Omsk.¹⁴ On January 23rd, according to his words, the Ukrainian was still in the Tiumen.¹⁵ On January 29th Mr. Kotelianets informed that Mr Panov was in the Omsk Detention Center.¹⁶

On January 22nd Mr Aleksey Bessarabov was questioned in the 'Sevastopol City Court' in the course of hearings on the case of **Mr. Vladimir Dudka and Mr. Aleksey Bessarabov.** He declared that he absolutely denied his guilt.¹⁷

¹² 'SCRC' | List of cases to be heard on 22 January 2019. Case 22H-285/2019 https://vs--krm.sudrf.ru/modules.php?name=sud_delo&sv_num=1&H_date=22.01.2019

¹³ 'SCRC' | List of cases to be heard on 22 January 2019. Case 1-1/2019(1-20/2018) https://vs--krm.sudrf.ru/modules.php?name=sud_delo&sv_num=1&H_date=22.01.2019

¹⁴ <https://www.facebook.com/crimeaahrg/posts/2225863854365910>

¹⁵ <https://www.facebook.com/photo.php?fbid=10216052111769103>

¹⁶ <https://www.facebook.com/crimeaahrg/photos/a.1677121552573479/2237481753204120/>

¹⁷ Krym. Realii | Defendant of 'Case of Ukrainian Commandos' plead not guilty in the court in Crimea — lawyer <https://ru.krymr.com/a/news-delo-ukrainskih-diversantov-bessarabov-v-sude-zayavil-o-nevinovnosti/29724227.html>



VOLODYMYR BALUKH'S CASE

On January 25th Mr. Aleksandr Kovalev, s judge of 'Kerch Town Court', did not upheld s motion of Vladimir Balukh's, s Ukrainian activist, defence on parole. The official reason for the rejection was stated as his personality had not been studied sufficiently since Mr Balukh had spent less than 6 months in the colony.¹⁸

VEDJIE KASHKA'S CASE

Mr Bekir Degermendji, Mr Asan Chapukh, Mr Kiazim Ametov and Mr Ruslan Trubach were detained on 23 November due to s fake charge of extorting the money from s citizen of Turkey. During the detention Mrs Vedjie Kashka, s Crimean Tatar movement veteran, whom, as the detained said, the citizen of Turkey was to return the borrowed money, died.

On January 24th Mr Mikhail Belousov, s judge of 'Kievsky District Court of Simferopol', changed s level of restriction for **Mr Kazim Ametov, Mr Bekir Degermendji, and Mr Ruslan Trubach** from keeping in custody to s house arrest.¹⁹

EDEM BEKIROV'S CASE

On January 10th Mr. Timur Slezko, s 'SCRC' judge, upheld s judgement on keeping in custody for Mr. Edem Bekirov till 11 February 2019. On January 15th Mr Bekirov was transported from the Detention Center for the hospital for medical examination.²⁰ Lawyer A.Ladin informed that Mr. Bekirov had been placed into the endocrinology department.²¹

Mr. Edem Bekirov, s Crimean Tatar activist from Kherson Region, was detained on December 12th at the entry to Crimea and charged under Articles 222-2 and 222.1-2 (*illegal storage and transportation of explosive substances and ammunition*). According to the RF FSB version, Mr Bekirov had brought 12kg of TNT and 200 cartridges for the firearms in spring of 2018 though no evidence was presented to prove his relation to the 'discovered' hidden storage.

«CASE OF CHELEBIDJIKHAN BATALLION»

There were 2 searches and 1 detention, and one sentence was rendered in Crimea in January within criminal cases against the Crimeans under RF CC Article 208 (*involvement into s military unit non covered by federal laws as well as involvement into s military unit on the territory of foreign state that is not covered by this state's laws for the purposes contradicting the RF interests*). They were accused of joining 'Crimean Voluntary Noman Chelebidjikhhan Battalion'. The battalion is quartered in Kherson Region close to the administrative border with Crimea. The CHRG has not

¹⁸ CHRG | Kerch 'Court' rejected s parole for Ukrainian activist Balukh <https://crimeahrg.org/kerchenskiy-sud-otkazal-ukrainskomu-patriotu-baluhu-v-uslovno-dosrochnom-osvobozhdenii>

¹⁹ Krym. Realii | Court in Crimea sentenced 'Case of Vedjie Kashka' defendants to house arrest (broadcasting) <https://ru.krymr.com/a/news-sud-v-krymu-otpravil-pod-domashnii-arest-figurantov-dela-vedzhie-kashka/29728648.html>

²⁰ Krym. Realii | Crimean Tatar activist Bekirov was transported from the Detention Center to the Hospital <https://ru.krymr.com/a/news-krymskotatarskogo-aktivista-bekirova-vyvezli-iz-sizov-bolnitsu/29710659.html>

²¹ Krym. Realii | 'Condition is bad but stable'. Lawyer visited Crimean Tatar activist Bekirov at hospital <https://ru.krymr.com/a/news-advikat-posetil-krymskotatarskogo-aktivista-bekirova-v-bolnitse/29713125.html>



found any information on the battalion engagement into the military actions in the East of Ukraine. As at the end of January the CHRG has information on three Crimean residents deprived of liberty under such charges: **Mr. Diliaver Gafarov, Mr. Fevzi Sagandji, and Mr. Edem Kadyrov.**

On January 18th Mr. Andrey Paliy, s 'SCRC' judge, upheld s judgement on extending the detention period for Mr. Gafarov who has been kept in custody since October 10th 2018, till February 24th 2019.²²

On January 23rd two searches were carried out in the houses of relatives of the Crimeans suspected of having joined the battalion (for more details see section 'Right to freedom and security of the person').

On January 23rd Mr. Ivan Udut, s judge of 'Leninsky District Court', sentenced Mr. Sagandji to 10.5 years of imprisonment under RF CC Article 208-2 for joining the Chelebidjikhhan Battalion. According to the CHRG information, Mr Sagandji was first detained by the RF FSB men in October 2017. He stated in the court that he had been tortured to make him sign the documents the FSB needed. He was detained the second time in April 2018 and kept in custody. He did not admit guilt in the 'court'.

Mr Fevzi Sagandji moved to Kherson in 2014 where he was helping the resettlers as volunteer of HEALTH AND GRACE Kherson Charity Fund.

On January 23rd the Russian mass media, referring to the RF FSB press office, reported detaining Mr Edem Kadyrov under suspicion of joining the Chelebidjikhhan Battlion (RF CC Article 208-2).²³ The same day Mr. Viktor Mozheliansky, judge of 'Kievsky District Court of Simferopol', took s decision on his 2 month's detention as level of restriction.²⁴

CONFINEMENT CONDITIONS IN DETENTION FACILITIES

Mrs Oksana Zakhtey, s spouse of Andrey Zakhtey (sentenced under the 'Case of Ukrainian Commandos'), informed that on January 3rd her husband had been placed in the punishment cell in the Simferopol Penal Colony No 1. Reasons for placing into the punishment cell are unknown for her.²⁵

Mr Edem Bekirov should not be kept in custody due to his health condition. He is s disabled person of Group I, suffering from diabetes, his limb was cut off, and he has cardiac bypasses. On January 18th Ms Eleonora Bekirova, his daughter, informed the CHRG that her father had administered an insulin shot that he was contraindicated due to the heart issues. On January 15th, the first day of his staying at hospital, he was in the corridor, and since January 18th he has been moved to the special unit of the Simferopol Detention Center.²⁶

PRESSURE ON LAWYERS

The RF Ministry of Justice demanded to expel lawyer Edem Kurbedinov from 'Crimean Central Bar Association' by 1 March 2019. The RF Minjustice pointed out two administrative cases started in Crimea against him for social network publications posted before 2014, as reason for this (**Annex 1**).

²² 'SCRC' | List of cases to be heard on 18 January 2019. Case 22K-318/2019 https://vs--krm.sudrf.ru/modules.php?name=sud_delo&sv_num=1&H_date=18.01.2019

²³ TASS | Court in Crimea arrested s suspected in joining an illegal Ukrainian battalion <https://tass.ru/proisshestiya/6032638>

²⁴ «Kievsky District Court of Simferopol' News of 23 January 2019 http://kiev-simph.krm.sudrf.ru/modules.php?name=press_dep&op=1&did=137

²⁵ Krym. Realii | Mr Zakhtey, sentenced in Crimea under the 'Case of Ukrainian Commandos' was placed in the punishment cell — the spouse <https://ru.krymr.com/a/news-osuzhdennogo-v-krymu-po-delu-ukrainskih-diversantov-zahteya-pomestili-v-karzer/29691666.html>

²⁶ <https://www.facebook.com/crimeahrg/photos/a.1677121552573479/2231036440515318/>



FREEDOM OF SPEECH AND EXPRESSION

On January 25th 'a prosecutor' and a judge tried to forbid one of observers to take audio records during the court session in 'Kerch Town Court'.

On January 26th CRIMEAN SOLIDARITY Group informed that the RF MIA had initiated administrative proceedings against Mr. Nuri Abdurashytov, an activist, under RF CoAO Article 17.3-2, for taking video in the corridor of 'Kievsky District Court of Simferopol'.²⁷ On January 30th the first session on considering this case was held in the 'justice' court' of Simferopol. The next one is to be held on February 15th 2019.²⁸

In January 2019 several criminal cases under RF CC Article 282 (*incitement of hatred or enmity*) were closed in Crimea due to decriminalization of this article in the RF.

On January 16th Mr. Timofey Piven', a RF Investigation Committee investigator, dismissed a criminal case against Mr. Ismail Ramazanov accused of creating an internet channel. He was kept in custody in the detention center from January 23rd to July 14th 2018.²⁹

On January 17th the criminal case against Ms. Elina Mamedova initiated for reposts in the VKontakte social network, was closed.³⁰

On January 23rd the 'court', upon the FSIN³¹ motion, decided to remove conviction of Ms Larisa Kitayskaya, an activist from Yalta, who had received a 2-year's suspended sentence for anti-Russian publication in the social networks.³²

On January 25th a criminal case against Ms. Gul'sum Aliyeva was dismissed.³³

On January 25th a criminal case under RF CC Article 282 against Mr Yevgeniy Karakashev was dismissed.³⁴ However, the activist is still in custody in the detention center because he is charged with RF CC Article 205.2 (*Public calls for terrorist actions, public justification of terrorism or propaganda of terrorism*) for a repost in the social network.

On January 24th 2019 the RF State Duma passed four bills in the first reading: No 606593-7,³⁵ No 606594-7,³⁶ No 606595-7³⁷ and No 606596-7,³⁸ that stipulated introducing an administrative liability for people and organization for disseminating the false information presented as true one as well as 'information that demonstrates clearly and indecently disrespect for the RF state and its authorities'. The mass media would be banned to disseminate such information. RosKomNadzor will be authorized to exercise control over providers and website owners to block promptly such information and remove it from the internet. Legal uncertainty in terms of 'undesirable' information contents in the bills would allow for persecuting selectively for the publications that do not correspond to the RF authorities' public position or criticize the powers.

²⁷ <https://www.facebook.com/crimeansolidarity/posts/778313392536119>

²⁸ <https://www.facebook.com/crimeansolidarity/videos/547228522441738/>

²⁹ Krym. Realii | Case against Mr. Ramazanov accused of extremism, who had been kept for half a year in the detention center, was dismissed <https://ru.krymr.com/a/news-prekratili-delo-protiv-ramazanova/29713452.html>

³⁰ <https://www.facebook.com/photo.php?fbid=2468069383266491>

³¹ Federal Penal Enforcement Service

³² CHRГ | Ms Larisa Kitayskaya informed of her conviction removed <https://crimeahrg.org/larisa-kitayskaya-soobshhila-o-snyatii-s-nee-sudimosti>

³³ <https://www.facebook.com/photo.php?fbid=2485192974887465>

³⁴ <https://www.facebook.com/photo.php?fbid=2484888648251231>

³⁵ <http://sozd.parliament.gov.ru/bill/606593-7>

³⁶ <http://sozd.parliament.gov.ru/bill/606594-7>

³⁷ <http://sozd.parliament.gov.ru/bill/606595-7>

³⁸ <http://sozd.parliament.gov.ru/bill/606596-7>



A punishment for false information suggested by the bills would be a penalty of RUR3,000 to 5,000 for the citizens, RUR30,000 to 50,000 for officials, and RUR400,000 to 1,000,000 for legal entities, with a subject of administrative offence to be confiscated. Disrespect for the society, state, authorities would be punished with an administrative penalty amounted to RUR1,000 — 5,000 or an administrative arrest for up to 15 days.

FREEDOM OF PEACEFUL ASSEMBLY

On January 18th the Sevastopol 'administration' rejected approving a small protest at the monument to Catherine II. The protest purpose was to support the Kuriles status as a RF territory. The authorities de facto stated that this place was occupied with a New Year structure and suggested to hold a protest at Svobody Square, in the city outskirts, that in fact deprives the assembly of possibility to attract the target audience attention.³⁹

FREEDOM OF CONSCIENCE AND RELIGION

In January 3 criminal cases under the RF CC Article 5.26 (*illegal missionary activities*) were sent to the Crimea 'justice's courts'. Two cases were opened against persons, and one — against a religious organization ('Society of Krishna Conscience of Sevastopol City').

³⁹ CHRГ | Sevastopol 'authorities' did not approve a place for peaceful assembly for pro-Russian activists <https://crimeahrg.org/sevastopolskie-vlasti-ne-soglasovali-mesto-provedeniya-mirnogo-sobraniya-prorossiyskih-aktivistov/>



3. VIOLATIONS OF INTERNATIONAL HUMANITARIAN LAW

GENEVA CONVENTION (III) RELATIVE TO THE TREATMENT OF PRISONERS OF WAR

On January 12th lawyer N.Polozov informed that a preliminary investigation against Ukrainian prisoners of war had been extended till May 25th 2019.⁴⁰

On January 15th Mr. Sergey Riabtsev, Ms. Al'bina Galimova and Ms. Yelena Kaneva, judges of Lefortovo District Court of Moscow, supported a motion of the RF FSB Investigation Department on in camera court hearings.

On January 15th and 16th Mr. Sergey Riabtsev, Ms. Al'bina Galimova and Ms. Yelena Kaneva, judges of Lefortovo District Court of Moscow, extended detention periods for all Ukrainian prisoners of war. 21 seamen would be kept in custody till April 24th 2019. Andrey Eyder, Andrey Artemenko, and Vasiliy Soroka would stay in the detention center till April 26th. The Ukrainian seamen were held in the court hall cage during the hearings. The judges rejected the defence motion to release the seamen from the cage.

On January 22nd lawyer N.Polozov informed that the RF authorities had not given an official answer regarding the health condition of wounded Andrey Artemenko, Andrey Eyder, and Vasiliy Soroka yet.⁴¹ According to the lawyer's information, Vasiliy Soroka's arm flexibility was not recovering, fingers were not bending, the edema was not disappearing, and fragments were still there.⁴² Lawyer N.Polozov informed that wounded prisoners of war Andrey Artemenko, Andrey Eyder, and Vasiliy Soroka had been moved from MATROSSKAYA TISHYNA Detention Center Medical unit to LEFORTOVO Detention Center on January 26th.⁴³

On January 25th the lawyer informed that POW Vladimir Tereschenko was kept in the cold cell with holes in the walls, and he had not been granted a right to visits and phone calls since the detention.⁴⁴

On January 30th the lawyer informed that for the whole period of imprisonment Viktor Bepal'chenko had received only one letter though his relatives and family members had written a lot of letters to him.⁴⁵

GENEVA CONVENTION (IV) RELATIVE TO THE PROTECTION OF CIVILIAN PERSONS IN TIME OF WAR

CONSCRIPTION OF PERSONS LIVING IN THE OCCUPIED TERRITORY INTO ARMED FORCES OF OCCUPYING POWER AND PROPAGANDA OF JOINING VOLUNTARILY THE ARMED FORCES

In January at least 5 criminal cases opened against the Crimean residents for deferring from the service in the RF Armed Forces were sent to the 'courts' of Crimea. As at the end of January the cases were at the court consideration stage.

⁴⁰ Interfax | Lawyer claimed that investigation period for the case of detained Ukrainian seamen had been extended <https://www.interfax.ru/russia/645842>

⁴¹ <https://www.facebook.com/nikolay.polozov/posts/2106888399376545>

⁴² <https://www.facebook.com/photo.php?fbid=2394986810576700>

⁴³ <https://www.facebook.com/nikolay.polozov/posts/2115473811851337>

⁴⁴ <https://www.facebook.com/anastasia.georgievskaya/posts/2652656711427864>

⁴⁵ <https://www.facebook.com/oksana.oparenko/posts/2016232695078453>



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*

