

# **CRIMEA SITUATION REPORT JULY 2021**

Russia tightened the legislation regarding "undesirable organizations." Russian authorities continue violating the right to health of political prisoners. They also commit procedural violations in their cases. Two Crimean Tatars appeared in punitive confinement. The court delivered the fourth verdict in a "case on failure to report a crime." Russian Investigative Committee once again refused to release the body of Ayub Rakhimov for burial. Russian law enforcement bodies conducted a search in the house of Crimean Tatars. The court convicted a woman for 4.5 years for alleged financing of terrorism. The occupying authorities kick people out of their homes. Occupants continue ruining the environment of the Peninsula. Problems with electric and water supply do not stop. Crimean occupying authorities rejected 250 appeals for compensation of losses due to the flood. The court rejected an appeal to start administrative supervision over the former political prisoner. 2 administrative persecutions were terminated.

Russia tightened the legislation regarding *"undesirable organizations"*.

From now on, there is no requirement to charge with an administrative

offence before starting a criminal investigation. This legislative change

involves a risk for all human rights and other non-governmental

organizations and those who donated to their activities.

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Russian authorities continue violating the right to health of political prisoners

Russian authorities continue violating the right to health of political prisoners. Servet Haziiev and Inver Bekirov suffered from a micro stroke. Zekiria Muratov is assumed to have pneumonia. Ivan Yatskin suffers from aggravation of his chronic illness; he has blisters on his legs. Osman **Seitumerov** has aches in his lower back; his eyesight is deteriorating quickly. Rustem Seitmemetov suffers from swelling of the feet. Server Mustafaiev has problems with eyesight and teeth. The health condition of **Dzhemil Hafarov** worsened. Doctors decided that **<u>Remzi Bekirov</u>** could participate in a court hearing while having a fever of 38.7°C.

**Procedural violations** *continue in politically motivated cases* 

Procedural violations continue in politically motivated cases. The judge of appeal accidentally read out a court decision that had been prepared in advance. Ruslan Nahaiev, Eldar Kantimirov, Ruslan Mesutov, and Lenur Khalilov were not allowed to testify in the Crimean Tatar language. Server Mustafaiev is restricted in examining the materials of his criminal case. Accusatory evidences in the case of the "3rd Bakhchysarai group" contradict each other. Remzi Bekirov's defense moved to disqualify the judge, considering him biased. Ilver Ametov's defense demanded that the case be returned to the prosecution after which several points of accusation were recalled. Former political prisoner Ferat Saifullaiev told about new searches and pressure from the FSB.

Two Crimean Tatars appeared in a punitive confinement

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Aider Saledinov and Rustem Ismailov appeared in punitive confinement after attempting to make a prayer in the middle of the night during the Greater Eid holiday.

The court<sup>1</sup> delivered the fourth verdict in a "case on failure to report a crime", fining Aider Abliakimov 30 thousand RUB (more on fines to other accused here, here, and here).

Russian Investigative Committee refused to release the body of a citizen of Uzbekistan Avub Rakhimov for burial. It explained the refusal by an alleged involvement of Rakhimov in terrorist activities.

Russian law enforcement bodies conducted a search in the house of Crimean Tatars. After the search, Abdulla Ibrahimov received a 3-day administrative arrest for the publication in social media in 2013.

The court convicted Nina Malakhova to 4.5 years in a penal colony for allegedly "collecting money for the terrorist organization under the pretext of charity." Additional information regarding this case is under verification.

The occupying authorities kick people out of their homes. More than 300 families are being kicked out of their homes near Simferopol. They received a permit for construction in 2006, but the occupying authorities reject their documents or permits. In Sevastopol, the occupying authorities are taking away two land plots in order to build on the "Tavrida" highway.

Occupants continue ruining the environment of the Peninsula. Sewage runoff in Feodosia goes directly into the sea. Several illegal waste deposits were found in <u>Sevastopol</u>. There was a fire on a waste deposit in Yevpatoria. It is possible that the fire was set on purpose.

Problems with electric and water supply do not stop (more details here, here, here, here, here, here, and here). Russia can not organize the work of electric networks during the hot weather (more details here, here, and here). Residents of Saky complain about rusty water.

The occupying authorities rejected 250 appeals for compensation of losses due to the flood in Yalta and Kerch. Due to the flood, fresh water in the Bakhchysarai district is inconsumable.

The court rejected an appeal by the police to start administrative supervision over Nariman Memedeminov, who came out of prison in 2020.

2 administrative persecutions were terminated. Elvina Useinova, a wife of a political prisoner Eldar Eldar Kantimirov, was found not guilty. **Dmytro** Formalev's fine that he had received for a single-person protest was changed to a warning.

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<sup>1</sup> Hereinafter all state institutions on the territory of the occupied Crimea and their representatives are mentioned with a note that they remain under the control of the occupying Russian authorities and therefore are not legitimate from the point of view of the Ukrainian and international law.