



CRIMEA SITUATION REPORT

AUGUST 2024

Ukrainian troops continue striking military objects in Crimea. Residents of Crimea continue being killed in the war and persecuted for anti-war and pro-Ukrainian expressions. There were new oppressions of Crimean Tatars and religious groups. New criminal cases and sentences were recorded. Crimean political prisoners continue being transferred to penitentiary institutions on the Russian territory, subjected to torture, cruel and inhuman treatment. Political prisoners continue complaining about health problems. New facts of damage to cultural heritage and environmental threats were recorded.

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Strikes on military objects

Ukrainian troops stroke four launchers of the S-400 Triumf air defence system, sank the submarine Rostov-on-Don (details are [here](#) and [here](#)), destroyed a Tunets-type speedboat and damaged three more floating devices. Ukrainian troops also destroyed one of the gas towers in the Black Sea and a railway ferry in Port Kavkaz (details are [here](#) and [here](#)). For the first time, Ukraine used a drone missile Palianytsia in August against a target in Crimea. In addition, a fire broke out at the ammunition warehouse near the Oktiabrskoe airfield (details are [here](#), [here](#) and [here](#)).

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Killing of Crimean residents in hostilities

In August, at least 35 residents of Crimea were killed on the front line on Russia's side. According to the Mission of the President of Ukraine in the Autonomous Republic of Crimea, as of the end of August 2024, at least 904 Russian servicemen were buried in Crimea (719 of them were probably the citizens of Ukraine), and at least 47 Russian servicemen from occupied Crimea were captured.

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Persecution for anti-war and pro-Ukrainian expressions

At least 943 cases under the article on discrediting the Russian army have been submitted to the “courts” in Crimea. In particular, the “courts” fined Petro Mokhonko under this article due to images in a social network, Volodymyr Shapoval, Olha Pihil and Yurii Dutov – due to pro-Ukrainian and anti-war expressions in social networks (“judges” Denys Kirieiev, Olena Bohdanovych, Tetiana Fedeniieva, Tamara Lobunska). The Russian police detained Vasyl Novikov, Denys Horiaiev and Viktor Boiko for listening to Ukrainian songs on the hotel area. The “court” arrested them for 10 days under the article about disobeying the lawful order of a police officer (“judge” Ihor Solodchenko). Maksym Kravchenko has been prosecuted under two articles of the Russian code of administrative offences due to a publication about Putin. The “court” fined Hennadii Kovaliov RUB 10,000 under the article about inciting hatred by writing a comment in a social network (“judge” Daria Dimakova). Russian security forces detained Amet Abdulhaniiev, who stuck a sticker over the Russian flag on the license plates of his car, and Yurii Mishchenko, who was shouting “Glory to Ukraine” and singing the national anthem of Ukraine.

The whereabouts of a veteran of the Crimean Tatar movement, Zodiie Saliieva, had been unknown for several hours after her detention by FSB officers for a “conversation”. The “court” fined a founder of the independent newspaper Qirim Seiran Ibrahimov RUB 250,000 under the article on the abuse of freedom of mass information (“judge” Serhii Moskalenko).

The occupants destroyed the last church of the Orthodox Church of Ukraine in Crimea. The department of Russia's Ministry of Justice in occupied Crimea filed a lawsuit to the “Supreme Court” of Crimea regarding the liquidation of the Muslim community “Alushta”.

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Criminal cases

Russian security forces conducted at least 5 searches at the houses of Jehovah's Witnesses and opened a criminal case against the believer Tamara Brattseva. The occupants initiated a criminal case against Oleh Shaposhnikov under the article on repeatedly discrediting the Russian army. The FSB opened a criminal

case against Roman Zubov for allegedly calling for the murder of Russians and announced the detention of a resident of Sevastopol, a Russian citizen and a Moldovan citizen for allegedly preparing sabotage and collecting data on the location of air defence objects.

The “courts” in Crimea sentenced a man to 6.5 years in prison for trying to join the Freedom of Russia Legion, and a resident of the southern coast of Crimea to 13 years in prison and a fine of RUB 200,000 for alleged high treason. The “court” in the occupied part of Kherson region sentenced a civic activist Iryna Horobtsova to 10.5 years in prison for alleged espionage. The Rostov court sentenced Ihor Korchynskyi to 18 years in prison and a fine of RUB 350,000 for an alleged attempt on Serhii Aksionov, the head of the occupation administration of Crimea (judge Maksim Nikitin). The Supreme Court of the Russian Federation upheld the sentence of 10 Crimean Tatars convicted for alleged involvement in Hizb ut-Tahrir (details are [here](#) and [here](#), judges Igor Krupnov, Oleg Derbilov).

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Sentences

In order to participate in the trial, the participants of the “5th Bakhchysarai group of the Hizb ut-Tahrir case” were transferred from Crimea to a pre-trial detention facility in Rostov-on-Don. Remzi Bekirov and Raim Aivazov were transferred to penal colonies in Khakassia and Arkhangelsk region, respectively, to continue serving their illegal sentences. The “court” in Crimea refused to transfer Marlen Asanov to a colony closer to the peninsula (“judge” Herman Atamaniuk).

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Transfers to penitentiary institutions in Russia

Rustem Osmanov is still kept in a punishment cell, beaten, not provided with the necessary medical care and humiliated (head of the colony Ivan Davydenko). In the same colony, Server Zekiriaiev has been kept for several months in single cell-type premises in inhuman conditions. Edem Smailov and Server Mustafaiev have been in strict detention conditions for more than six months. Remzi Kurtnezirov was subjected to forced psychiatric examination in humiliating conditions. 5 participants of the “5th Bakhchysarai group of the Hizb ut-Tahrir case” had not been allowed to see their relatives for a year. Zavur Abdullaiev does not receive letters. The occupants have been keeping an ATO veteran Yehor Kysel in a Simferopol pre-trial detention facility for over 2 years.

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Torture, cruel and inhuman treatment

The Russian court refused to release Tofik Abdulhaziiev, despite a disease incompatible with imprisonment. Amet Suleimanov urgently needs a surgery to replace a heart valve, Arsen Abkhairov needs a surgery to remove varicose veins. Azamat Eiupov and Zavur Abdullaiev need consultations from specialized doctors, Ruslan Nahaiev needs an urgent surgery. Iryna Danylovych has suffocation attacks due to the lack of treatment. Enver Ametov has an exacerbation of hepatitis B. Yashar Muiedinov has leg swelling. Server Mustafaiev's eyesight is deteriorating. Edem Smailov, Asan Akhtemov, Zavur Abdullaiev and Enver Ametov have vision and dental problems.

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Health problems of political prisoners

The occupants liquidated the Lesya Ukrainka Museum in Yalta. The Kherson Art Museum identified three more paintings that the occupants had taken to the Central Museum of Tavriya in Simferopol.

The shallowing of the Bilohirsk and Taigan reservoirs continues. The occupants announced the construction of a solid waste landfill in Bilohirsk district.