

# CRIMEA SITUATION REPORT

## OCTOBER 2024

Ukrainian troops hit new military objects in Crimea. The occupants launched the autumn conscription into the Russian army. Residents of Crimea continue being killed in the war and persecuted for anti-war and pro-Ukrainian expressions. New facts of persecution of journalists and religious groups, criminal cases, sentences and transfers to penitentiary institutions on the Russian territory were recorded. Political prisoners continue complaining of cruel and inhuman treatment and health problems. CrimeaSOS presented an environmental study. The policy of non-recognition of the annexation of Crimea experienced violations.

In October, Ukrainian troops hit an oil depot in Feodosia (details are [here](#), [here](#) and [here](#)), a radar station on Cape Tarkhankut and the S-300/S-400 missile system.

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*Circscription and killing of Crimean residents*

On October 1, the occupants launched the 20th conscription campaign in Crimea (details are [here](#), [here](#) and [here](#)). Amendments were made to the Russian legislation, which allow certain categories of defendants to perform military service under the contract (details are [here](#), [here](#) and [here](#)). At least 42 residents of Crimea were killed in hostilities in October. As of the beginning of November, at least 1,295 Russian servicemen stationed in Crimea have been killed, 814 of them were probable Ukrainian citizens.

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*Persecution for anti-war and pro-Ukrainian expressions*

At least 982 cases under the article on discrediting the Russian army have been submitted to the “courts” in Crimea. The “courts” fined Olha Pankratenkova RUB 30,000 under the article on discrediting the Russian army due to pro-Ukrainian photos on a social network, Bohdan Shchetytin – RUB 40,000 for anti-war statements and support for the Armed Forces of Ukraine, Tetiana Kasai – for an unknown amount due to anti-war statements on a social network (“judges” Liubov Korpachova, Yevhen Pronin, Olena Bohdanovych). The “court” arrested the deputy chief doctor of the hospital Andrii Perelyhin for 15 days due to the ringtone “Chervona Kalyna” and fined him RUB 50,000 due to pro-Ukrainian statements (“judge” Oleksii Mykytiuk). Russian security forces drew up an administrative protocol against the mother of a schoolgirl whose daughter posted a video insulting the Russian flag on a social network.

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*Persecution of journalists*

The “court” left unchanged the fines imposed on the newspaper “Qirim” and its editor-in-chief Bekir Mamutov for quoting the report of the UN Secretary-General (“judges” Vira Serikova, Oleksii Mykytiuk). Roskomnadzor blocked 197 VPN services in the occupied territories.

The “Supreme Court” of Crimea ruled to liquidate the independent Muslim community “Alushta” (“judge” Oksana Khozhainova). The local occupation authorities seized another temple of the Orthodox Church of Ukraine.

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*Criminal cases*

Russian security forces conducted at least 10 searches of Jehovah’s Witnesses and opened a criminal case against the believer Vitalii Buryk. A criminal case was opened against Liudmyla Kolesnikova due to the purchase of NFT tokens about the Russian warship. She was detained in June 2024 at her mother’s funeral and was held in a pre-trial detention facility for several months without charges and hygiene products. FSB officers detained two women in Sevastopol and a resident of Kherson region in Crimea for allegedly transferring data on military objects to Ukrainian special services. A resident of Feodosia was detained for alleged similar actions, as well as financing the Armed Forces of Ukraine. In addition, the FSB detained a resident of Crimea for allegedly cooperating with the Security Service of Ukraine and a citizen of Kazakhstan, Turan Ustyugov, for intending to join a Ukrainian volunteer battalion.

The “court” in Crimea sentenced Nariman Derman to 3.5 years of imprisonment for allegedly participating in the Noman Çelebicihan Battalion, despite a disease incompatible with imprisonment. The “courts” in Crimea sentenced Vladyslav Kysliakov and Taras Kovyrnychenko to 13 and 16 years of imprisonment, respectively, for alleged high treason (“judges” Alla Khinevych, Serhii Pohrebnik), Roman Melnychuk and Vladyslav Hromovy – to 16 and 10 years of imprisonment, respectively, for an alleged attempt on the racist blogger Oleksandr Talipov (“judge” Serhii Puchkov). The “court” in Sevastopol sentenced Ihor Kopyl to 14 years of imprisonment and a fine of RUB 400,000 on charges of alleged high treason (“judge” Ihor Kozhevnykov), another resident of the city – to 15 years and RUB 200,000. The “court” in the occupied part of Zaporizhzhia region sentenced Dmytro Shainoha, who had been held in the Simferopol pre-trial detention facility without charges for 1.5 years, to 12 years of imprisonment for alleged espionage. The Rostov court sentenced a resident of Sevastopol to 21 years of imprisonment for alleged high treason, teaching terrorist activities and preparing a terrorist attack. The “Supreme Court” of Crimea upheld the fine imposed on Emine Zekeriaieva and replaced a 6-year suspended sentence of Jehovah’s Witnesses Serhii Parfenovich and Yurii Herashchenko with imprisonment (“judges” Oleksandr Voronyi, Natalia Hrebennikova).

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*Sentences*

Riza Izetov, Eldar Kantimirov, Bilal Adilov, Akim Bekirov, Rustem Seitkhaliyev and Emil Ziadinov were transferred to penal colonies in Yakutia, Buryatia, Tuva, Chuvashia, Karelia and Arkhangelsk region, respectively, to continue serving their illegal sentences.

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*Transfers to other penitentiary institutions in Russia*

Rustem Seitkhaliyev was in a punishment cell. Remzi Bekirov and Osman Arifmemetov were transferred to strict detention conditions. Remzi Bekirov and Asan Yanikov are not allowed to make phone calls, they are also restricted in correspondence with their relatives. During his transfer, Eldar Kantimirov was kept in dirty cells. Emil Ziadinov was forced to shave his beard. The Rostov court recognized that Shaban Umerov shall be transferred to a penitentiary with milder terms of serving his sentence. The colony administration prevents the parole of Vladyslav Yesypenko.

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*Cruel and inhuman treatment*

At least 41 Crimean political prisoners need immediate medical care. The colony administration continues ignoring Iryna Danylovych’s health. Crimea’s “Ministry of Health” removed Amet Suleimanov from the queue for heart valve replacement surgery. Rustem Huhuryk has problems with hearing, stomach and teeth; the colony administration does not provide him with adequate medical care. Rustem Sheikhaliev has high blood pressure, headache, and varicose veins.

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*Health problems of political prisoners*

CrimeaSOS presented a research on the environment in Crimea during the full-scale war. The filling of Ayan, Simferopol and Partyzanske reservoirs, reservoirs on the southern coast and Lake Kutuzivka continues decreasing. The occupants plan to drill wells in Simferopol and Bilohirsk districts.

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*Environmental issues*

A “forum” was held in Yalta hosting participants from China, Kazakhstan and Uzbekistan. Children from Germany, France and Finland attended propaganda events at the Artek children’s camp (details are [here](#) and [here](#)). The IAEA financed Russian scientific projects in Crimea.

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*Violation of the policy of non-recognition of the annexation*