

Residents of Crimea die in the war. They also are persecuted for anti-war and pro-Ukrainian statements. Security forces take mobilization measures and promote the cult of war among young people. New cases of enforced disappearances, criminal cases and convictions recorded. Political prisoners continue to be subjected to cruel treatment and transferred to penitentiary institutions deep inside the Russian Federation. New damage to cultural heritage and new violations of religious freedoms recorded. Environmental problems are observed. Ukrainian troops continue to strike military facilities in Crimea and the water area, and Russia continues to militarize the peninsula.

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Conscription and death of
Crimeans in the war

People from Crimea continue to die – two more Crimeans have been buried. As of now, 1,462 deceased residents of the peninsula have been identified. 13 men received conscription notices after a raid by security forces on a market in Sevastopol. Such raids are carried out regularly and cover construction sites, hostels, clubs, parks, and other places of mass gathering of people. The number of protocols drawn up under the article on “discrediting” the Russian armed forces has increased: 1,382 cases were recorded, while last week there were 1,350. In 1,218 cases, decisions were made to impose fines or consolidate cases. In 61 cases, proceedings are still ongoing.

The program of militarization of youth is actively imposed – students are being drawn into training in tactical medicine, forced to help the front and engage in propaganda among children. Over 1,000 students are forced to undergo “tactical medicine training”, the real purpose of which is to assemble first aid kits for the Russian military. Another 800 students are forced to draw “patriotic scenes” in Simferopol kindergartens: portraits of Putin, army emblems, war scenes. “School labour units” have also begun operating, forcing children to clean public parks and monuments to participants in the war against Ukraine during the summer holidays. The Russian Federation is also going to remove the Ukrainian language and literature course from the federal general education program.

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New cases of enforced
disappearance

It became known that in Sevastopol, Russian security forces abducted a couple, Oleh and Natalia, and took their 9-year-old child to a shelter. Natalia and Oleh’s phones are not answering, but they periodically appear online in the evenings. In Simferopol, 21-year-old Sidamet Sitmemetov had been searched for 2 days; he has informed his relatives that his freedom was restricted.

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Persecution

Employees of the “E” Centre issued a notice to the head of the independent Muslim community “Eski Qırım” Idris Yurdamov about drawing up an administrative protocol against him. The document states that “upon the fact of the inspection conducted”, signs of a violation were found in the actions of the head of “Eski Qırım”.

An occupation court is going to try a 53-year-old resident of Kerch and a follower of Jehovah’s Witnesses for his religious beliefs.

On charges of “high treason”, law enforcement agencies detained a 22-year-old resident of Kerch, two women born in 1986 and 1987, a 28-year-old resident of Dzhankoi area, a resident of Simferopol, a mother (42 years old) and a daughter (24 years old) from Sevastopol. Two residents of Yalta, born in 1977 and 1993, were taken into custody by Russian security forces, and a Crimean born in 1976 was arrested.

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Raiding

In Sevastopol, the Russian authorities may seize the building of the Roman Catholic church.

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Persecution for anti-war and pro-Ukrainian
statements

In Yevpatoria, 65-year-old Yevhen Nenka was detained due to pro-Ukrainian inscriptions on benches. A 38-year-old resident of Yalta was sentenced to two years of probation on charges of calling for extremism on the Internet.

In Sevastopol, a 19-year-old was fined RUB 99,000 for pro-Ukrainian beliefs and discrediting the Russian army; another man on the peninsula – RUB 30 thousand.

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Criminal cases

In the occupation court, the prosecution requested punishment for five defendants in the case of the first Dzhankoi group “Hizb ut-Tahrir”: the prosecutor requested that Enver Krosh be sentenced to 17 years in a strict regime colony, Edem Bekirov

and Rinat Aliiev – to 15 years in prison each, journalist Vilen Temerianov – to 13 years in prison, and Seitiaha Abbozov to – 11 years.

Two 30-year-old men were detained and charged with setting fire to relay cabinets on a railway in the Saky area.

The so-called “Supreme Court of Crimea” sentenced Yalta resident Liudmyla Kolesnikova to 17 years in prison in a general regime colony. She was found guilty of “high treason” for allegedly financing the purchase of drones for the Ukrainian army (judge – Serhii Pohrebniak). Sevastopol resident Yaroslav Balytskyi was found guilty of “high treason”, additionally charged with installing a surveillance camera in Yevpatoria, which was allegedly connected to by the officers of the Security Service of Ukraine. The final sentence is 20 years of deprivation of liberty with the first three years served in prison (judge – Viktor Skliarov).

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Sentences

The Sevastopol City Court considered the appeals and left unchanged the sentence imposed on Viktor Kudinov and Serhii Zhyhalov by the Gagarin District Court (found both guilty under Part 1 of Article 282.2 of the criminal code of the Russian Federation (organization of the activities of an extremist organization) and sentenced each to six years of imprisonment in a general regime colony).

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Decisions of the courts of
appeal and cassation

In order to continue serving the illegal sentences, political prisoner Enver Mamutov was transferred from the Stavropol Territory to the Chuvash Republic, Lenur Seidametov to a colony in the Amur Region, and Yashar Muedynov to the Arkhangelsk Region. Amethan Abdulvapov is awaiting transfer while in the Irkutsk Oblast pre-trial detention centre.

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Transfers to
penitentiary institutions
in Russia

The eyesight of civic journalist Asan Akhtemov has seriously deteriorated. He is also very concerned about back and knee pain, which prevents him from sitting for more than 15 minutes. Political prisoner Ruslan Mesutov complains of severe pain in his legs, heart, blood pressure problems, and ruptured veins, but prison doctors can do nothing to help. Political prisoner Zaur Abdulaiev has only 12 teeth left, and dental care is not provided. In addition, his chronic diseases – diabetes and hypertension – have worsened. Convicted journalist Amet Suleimanov has persistent high blood pressure, dental problems, and rashes on his body of unknown origin. The man also needs heart surgery to replace a heart valve.

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Health problems among
political prisoners

The occupation “administration” of Sevastopol plans to build a shopping mall and residential buildings at the excavation site of an archaeological site – a Roman fort from the 2nd-3rd centuries AD in Balaklava. Landowners have already partially excavated the fort, exposing the triple moat of the corner of the Roman fort, which threatens the irreversible loss of a unique heritage.

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Damage to cultural
heritage

The occupation authorities are continuing their attempts to overcome the consequences of the fuel oil spill from Russian oil tankers in the Kerch Strait – an additional RUB 1.4 billion have been allocated for this purpose.

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Environmental challenges

The Security Service of Ukraine blew up the pillars of the Kerch Bridge, as a result of which the underwater supports of the pillars were severely damaged at the bottom level. Ukrainian drones attacked the Russian airfield “Kirovsk” in eastern Crimea, where Mi-8, Mi-26 and Mi-28 helicopters, as well as the “Pantsir-S1” air defence missile system, were destroyed. Hostilities continued in the Black Sea area – a fire was recorded on the drilling rig tower of the Petro Godovanets gas production platform. The militarization of the peninsula continues: Kerch Airport has changed its purpose from civilian to military. Russia has also begun building shelters for aircraft at military bases in Crimea: at the Kirovsk airfields, as well as in Sevastopol, Hvardiiske, and Saki.

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Military operations