

Crimeans die in the war, while psychologists and police officers are recruiting new contract soldiers. Political prisoners continue to be subjected to cruel treatment and transferred to penitentiary institutions deep inside the Russian Federation (RF). Serious environmental problems are observed, cultural losses are recorded. Ukrainian troops continue striking military targets on the peninsula.

Conscription and death of Crimeans in the war

- Crimeans continue dying in the war against Ukraine. The plan to recruit contract soldiers for the army is being implemented with the help of staff psychologists and police officers. Children are sent to field training camps, where war veterans give them instructions. In Sevastopol, land plots are confiscated and houses are forced to be demolished without compensation or provision of alternative housing.

Persecution

- Independent Muslim religious community “Eski Qırım” was fined RUB (₽) 400,000 under the article on distribution of extremist materials (Art. 20.29 of the Code of Administrative Offenses of the RF). In Crimea, people are punished for Ukrainian music: a cafe director was fined ₽ 300,000 in the Bakhchysarai area, a report was drawn up against DJ Korotkyi Pavlo Hennadiiovych for discrediting the Russian army, and local resident of Saky, Blahodyr Yevhen Viktorovych, was detained. Crimean Zlata Spivak was fined ₽ 20,000 by court for the suggestion to attend a protest due to water supply disruptions. Resident of the Simferopol area, Misnyk Denys, was fined ₽ 30,000 for insulting the President of Russia. A 22 y.o. resident of Simferopol and a 38 y.o. resident of Sevastopol were fined for comments about a deceased police officer. A resident of Kerch was fined ₽ 100,000 for LGBT propaganda through published memes. Crimean Tatars who arrived from abroad to visit relatives were detained. A resident of Skadovsk, Olena Sirenko, was detained. Hennadii Lymeshko, who disappeared after serving an illegal sentence, was included in the updated list of the so-called “terrorists and extremists.” Crimean Tatar Ilnur Shahaiev and several others were detained at the request of the RF through Interpol.

Persecution for anti-war and pro-Ukrainian statements

- The occupiers detained Lenur Enverovych, a resident of the Saky area, for pro-Ukrainian statements. A 38 y.o. native of Sevastopol was fined ₽ 69,000 for discrediting the Russian army. Under the same article, the RF put lawyer Mykola Polozov on the wanted list; and resident of the Simferopol region, Elnaz Charukhova, was fined ₽ 50,000.

Criminal cases

- A criminal case has been opened against a resident of Yalta born in 1981 (he allegedly planned a terrorist attack on Russia Day). A case was opened against a 23 y.o. resident of Sevastopol (he allegedly filmed an anti-Russian film) under Part 2 of Art. 205.5 of the Criminal Code of the RF (CCRF) (participation in a terrorist organization). A case under Art. 205.2 of the CCRF (public justification or propaganda of terrorism) was opened against a resident of Kerch born in 1975. A resident of Feodosia, Iryna Vladimirova, a 45 y.o. resident of Yalta, a 39 y.o. resident of Simferopol, a resident of Simferopol born in 1984, were charged under Part 2 of Art. 280 of the CCRF (public calls for extremism). Khatizhe Buiukchan, abducted on May 6, is accused of terrorism and treason. She faces life imprisonment. Crimean Tatar Niiara Ersmambetova is charged under Art. 275 of the CCRF (treason). A resident of Feodosia is charged under the same article. The prosecutor’s office is accusing Kerch residents 24 y.o. Serhii Kozlov and 26 y.o. Yevheniia Samoilova of treason. Kozlov is charged under Art. 205.3 of the CCRF (training for terrorist activities), Sub-clause “b” of Part 2 of Art. 205 of the CCRF (terrorist act), Part 1 of Art. 30 – Part 1 of Art. 223.1 of the CCRF (manufacture of explosive devices). In addition, Kozlov and Samoilova are jointly charged under Art. 275 of the CCRF (treason), Part 1 of Art. 30 – Subsection “6” of Part 3 of Art. 205 and Part 1 of Art. 30 – Subsections “a”, “b” of Part 2 of Art. 205 of the CCRF (preparation for a terrorist act), as well as Subsections “a”, “b” of Part 3 of Art. 222.1 of the CCRF (illegal acquisition, storage, transportation and carrying of explosives and explosive devices). A 44 y.o. resident of Sevastopol is charged under Part 1 of Art. 148 of the CCRF (insulting the feelings of believers).

Sentences

- A court in Sevastopol sentenced local resident Vadym Sorokoletov to 17 years in prison, with a 1-year restriction of liberty, and a fine of ₽ 200,000 under Art. 275 of the CCRF (treason in the form of espionage). The Gagarin District Court of Sevastopol sentenced two 30 y.o. local residents under Part 2 of Art. 280 of the CCRF: one to 1.5 years in a penal colony, the other to 2.5 years of probation. The Saky District Court sentenced Mykyta Morkva to 1 year of forced labour under Part 1 of Art. 282.4 of the CCRF (repeated display of Nazi symbols). The Southern District Military Court sentenced Sevastopol native Nadiia Hrekova to 22 years in a penal colony in a case on terrorist act, training for terrorist

activities, possession of explosives, and treason. The same court sentenced a citizen of Ukraine born in 1989 to 9 years in prison under Part 1.1 of Art. 205.1 of the CCRF (financing of terrorism). The so-called “Supreme Court of Crimea” sentenced a resident of Kerch to 16.5 years in a penal colony, with a further restriction of liberty for 1 year and 6 months, and a fine under Art. 275.1 of the CCRF (confidential cooperation with a foreign state); judge – Alla Khinevich. The same court sentenced Kerch resident Ismail Shemshedinov to 13 years in prison with subsequent restriction of liberty for 1 year and 10 months in a case of treason (judge – Natalia Kulinskaya). A “court” sentenced the 53 y.o. Crimean to 17 years in prison, with a subsequent restriction of liberty for 1 year and 6 months, as well as a fine of ₽ 200,000 (judge – Alla Khinevich).

The Supreme Court overturned the sentence of Kseniia Svitlshyna who was convicted of “collaboration with a foreign organization,” and sent the case for a new trial, believing that her actions could be classified as a more serious crime.

Political prisoner Yashar Shykhametov was transferred to a colony in the Kemerovo region, and Eskender Abdulhaniev – to a colony in the city of Kemerovo. Arsen Abkhairov was transferred to the city of Tsyvilsk, Osman Arifmemetov – to a colony in the Orenburg region.

Illegally imprisoned Ametkhan Abdulvapov suffered a stroke, and doctors lack drugs for treatment. Imam from Alushta Lenur Khalilov spent about 6 months in the hospital. Crimean Tatar Abibulla Smedliaiev has experienced worsening problems with his eyes and vision. Vadym Siruk, Arsen Abkhairov, and Dzhebbbar Bekirov have dental problems, and Rustem Huhuryk is losing hearing in both ears. Shaban Umerov needs dentures and suffers from high blood pressure. Emil Dzhemadenov was diagnosed with an inguinal hernia. Yashar Muiedinov was transferred to the hospital. Server Mustafaiev suffers from a musculoskeletal disease; Osman Arifmemetov has kidney disease and arthrosis; Vilen Temerianov requires dental treatment. Rustem Seitmemetov’s health is deteriorating after suffering a heart attack.

Serhii Tsyhipa began a hunger strike amid the colony administration’s refusal to provide him with medicine. Tymur Yalkabov was placed in strict conditions of detention in a colony in Murmansk. Journalist Ruslan Suleimanov was placed on preventive registration by the management of Correctional Colony-17 in Murmansk, together with Shaban Umerov. Seiran Saliiev was placed in a penal isolation cell. Seitumer Seitumerov Pakize and Amet Suleimanov have not been able to contact their families for over 2 months due to the absence of a censor in prison. The whereabouts of Serhii Hryshchenkov and at least 5 other Ukrainians abducted since early 2025 are concealed, and they are detained without any official status or charges. Kremlin prisoner Iryna Danylovych reported mass abuse of women in Russian colony.

Due to negligence in a reconstruction in Kerch, cultural layers are being destroyed – artifacts are being destroyed by excavator buckets, and fragments of amphorae and roof tiles are being disposed of as ordinary garbage.

The Russian Emergencies Ministry reported that since the start of cleanup work, more than 908 tons of contaminated sand and soil have been collected. At the same time, toxic fuel oil travelled more than 650 km and reached the shores of the Odesa region. The drought has led to the shallowing of the Salhir river – the longest on the peninsula. Gobies have disappeared in the coastal zone of the Sea of Azov due to overfishing and pollution of the ecosystem. Wastewater discharge into the therapeutic pink Saky Lake has been recorded; and Moinak Lake in Yevpatoria has practically disappeared.

The Ukrainian Armed Forces inflict losses on Russian troops in Crimea. The military successfully hit the Pantsir-S1 SAM system, the Niobium-SV radar, the Pechora-3 coastal radar, the Protivnik-GE radar, and the Su-30 fighter at the Saky airfield. Three units of the Nebo complex were destroyed; damage was recorded to a Black Sea Fleet warship. It is likely that the S-300/S-400 air defence systems and radar were hit on the Kerch Peninsula.

Decisions of the courts of appeal and cassation

Transfers to penitentiary institutions in Russia

Health problems of political prisoners

Detention conditions

Damage to cultural heritage

Environmental challenges

Military operations