

INFORMATION

on the outcomes of the analysis of arguments set out in the letter of the Permanent Delegation of Ukraine to UNESCO and in statements delivered by representatives of the Office of the UN High Commissioner for Human Rights, Office of the OSCE Representative on Freedom of the Media, International Council on Monuments and Sites and Amnesty International France

Cultural heritage

According to reports presented to Ukraine's state statistical bodies, as of 1 January 2014 in the Republic of Crimea there were 24 museums, including 12 museums run by republican institutions and 12 museums run by municipal institutions, with the total of 1,270,847 museum exhibits and properties.

According to Rosstat (Russian Statistical Service), as of 1 January 2015 in the Crimea there were 27 museums, including 15 run by republican bodies and 12 run by municipal bodies, with the total of 1,291,937 museum exhibits and properties.

The Prosecutor's Office of the Republic of Crimea has verified compliance with legal requirements for the maintenance of the **building** located at Simferopol, ulitsa Schmidta, 2, **which is an architectural and urban planning monument of local importance**, inscribed into the State Register of Immovable Monuments of Ukraine. This building was privatized by the "Crimea Fund" charitable organization and up to now is owned by it.

The State Committee for Protecting Cultural Heritage of the Republic of Crimea has revealed that the "Crimea Fund" violated: Art. 26 of the Law of Ukraine "On Protecting Cultural Heritage Sites" in force at the time when the organization took protection commitments; Part 1 of Art. 45 of the Federal Law No. 73-FZ of 25 June 2002 "On Cultural Heritage Sites (Historical and Cultural Monuments) of the Russian Federation" (hereinafter "Federal Law No. 73-FZ"); Art. 43 of the Law of the Republic of Crimea No. 68-ZRK of 11 September 2014 "On Cultural Heritage Sites in the Republic of Crimea"; the protection agreement concluded on 29 December 2010 with the Republican Committee of the AR of Crimea on the protection of cultural heritage.

The "Crimea Fund" willfully, without an endorsement by a body of cultural heritage protection and without preparing design documentation, introduced constructive changes in the structure of the attic of this architectural and urban planning monument in order to use it as office premises. In addition, this site of cultural heritage was handed over for the use to third parties ("the Mejlis of the Crimean Tatar people" and newspaper "Avdet") without the consent of a body of cultural heritage protection.

On 28 October 2014, the State Committee for Protecting Cultural Heritage of the Republic of Crimea opened cases against the "Crimea Fund" and its head on charges of administrative infractions under Part 1 of Art. 7.13 (Violation of requirements for conservation, use and protection of cultural heritage sites (historical and cultural monuments) of the peoples of Russian Federation or their territories, or non-compliance with the restrictions established within the boundaries of their protection zones) of the Code of Russian Federation on Administrative Infractions (hereinafter "Co RF AI").

On 10 November 2014, the Kiev District Court of Simferopol found the above-mentioned organization and its head guilty of an administrative infraction and sentenced them to a fine of 350 thousand rubles (the Supreme Court of the Republic of Crimea reduced the amount of the

fine to 100 thousand rubles). The "Crimea Fund" as a legal entity was sentenced to a fine of 4.5 million rubles.

In addition, the State Committee for Protecting Cultural Heritage of the Republic of Crimea filed a request for arbitration in the Arbitration Court according to the procedure stipulated by Part 1 of Art. 54 of the Federal Law No. 73-F3, concerning the withdrawal of the title from the owner of an architectural and urban planning monument, who fails to duly maintain it. On 30 April 2015, the Arbitration Court of the Republic of Crimea satisfied the claim. At present, this decision is being appealed by the defendant.

On 1 September 2014, **the State-Financed Institution of the Republic of Crimea "East Crimean Historical and Cultural Museum-Reserve", which is the legal successor of the Kerch National Reserve**, concluded a cooperation agreement with the Federal State-Financed Cultural Institution "State Hermitage." No museum exhibits or cultural properties have been transferred to the State Hermitage under the terms of this agreement.

On the basis of the decision of the State Council of the Republic of Crimea No. 1841-6/14 of 26 March 2014 "On measures aimed at preserving cultural properties," all cultural properties of the Republic of Crimea inscribed into accounting and archival records of museums owned by communities, the Autonomous Republic of Crimea or the State, including museum properties that were transferred for temporary storage beyond the Republic of Crimea, are considered the property of the Republic of Crimea.

Arguments on the implementation in the Republic of Crimea of large-scale excavations violating international principles in the field of archaeological heritage, **have not been confirmed**. Currently there are over 80 permits in force, which have been issued by the Ministry of Culture of Russia to individuals granting them the right to carry out archaeological work in the territory of the Republic of Crimea.

The jurisdiction of the Chief Directorate of Culture and Cultural Heritage Sites Protection of Sevastopol covers, *Inter alia*, the Sevastopol State-Financed Cultural Institution (hereinafter "SFCI") "National Museum of Heroic Defense and Liberation of Sevastopol", SFCI "Sevastopol M.P. Kroshitsky Art Museum" and SFCI "National Reserve 'Tauric Chersonese'". In June 2014, National Reserve "Tauric Chersonese" signed an agreement on scientific and cultural cooperation with the State Hermitage Museum, according to which the latter sends expeditions to Sevastopol for research purposes without obtaining any right to items found during the excavations. In 2014-2015, a traveling exhibition was held in Russia presenting 60 exhibits, which by its end were returned to Sevastopol.

Freedom of expression

According to the Directorate of the Federal Service for Supervision of Communications, Information Technology and Mass Media for the Republic of Crimea and the City of Sevastopol, as of September 2015, there are in the republic 369 registered media, including 282 print media, 25 TV channels, 44 radio channels, 14 online publications and 4 news agencies.

Of the total, 44 registered media work in the Crimean Tatar language, including 6 TV channels, 8 radio channels and 30 periodicals.

Crimean Tatar TV channels "ATR T" and "Liale" and radio channel "Meydan" did not pass timely the procedure of registration as Russian media as a result of the fact that their documents required for registration did not meet the requirements of the Law of the Russian Federation No. 2124-1 of 27 December 1991 «On the Mass Media" and of the decree of the Government of

the Russian Federation No. 1752-r of 6 October 2011 "On approving the list of documents annexed by an applicant to the application for registration (re-registration) of the media."

Broadcasting by Ukrainian television and radio channels in the Republic of Crimea is subject to observing current Russian legislation in the field of communication by broadcasters.

The Prosecutor's Office of the Republic of Crimea has received no complaints concerning pressure on the media.

Newspaper "Avdet", a press organ of the "Mejlis of the Crimean Tatar people", was founded and published by the "Crimea Fund" since 15 July 1990. The editorial office was located at the following address: Simferopol, ulitsa Schmidta/Naberezhnaya, 2/27, in the premises of the "Crimea Fund". No contract on renting or leasing the premises was signed. The editor-in-chief is Kaybullaev Sh.E.

The Prosecutor's Office of the Republic of Crimea has received from newspaper "Avdet" no complaints concerning actions by the agents of the Inter-District Directorate of Bailiffs on Special Enforcement Proceedings of the Office of the Federal Bailiff Service for the Republic of Crimea.

As for newspaper "Avdet", no enforcement proceedings were carried out. No judiciary decision to suspend or ban its activities, use of property or presence in any premises was taken. According to the Directorate of Roskomnadzor for the Republic of Crimea and Sevastopol, as of 9 September 2015 no documents for registration (re-registration) of newspaper "Avdet" were received.

On 24 June 2014, the Directorate of the Federal Security Service (FSB) of Russia for the Republic of Crimea warned editor-in-chief Kaybullaev Sh.E. about the inadmissibility of extremist activity in the territory of the Russian Federation in connection with the publication in the newspaper of the decisions of the "Mejlis of the Crimean Tatar people" concerning the need to "boycott the elections to the so-called State Council in the temporarily occupied AR of Crimea and Sevastopol."

In accordance with Art. 31 of the Law "On Mass Media", television and radio broadcasting is carried out by a broadcaster on the basis of a broadcasting license issued by a federal executive body empowered by the Government of the Russian Federation. Consequently, broadcasting by Ukrainian television and radio channels in the Republic of the Crimea and Sevastopol requires an appropriate license.

On 25 November 2014, the Presidium of the State Council of the Republic of Crimea by its decree No. 222-1/14 approved the Rules for the accreditation of journalists, media professionals and news agencies to the State Council of the Republic of Crimea (hereinafter "Rules"). They were developed in accordance with the Law of the Russian Federation "On Mass Media", the Federal Law No. 7-FZ of 13 January 1995 "On covering public authorities' activities in by the state mass media", the laws of the Republic of Crimea and the Regulations of the State Council of the Republic of Crimea.

According to paragraph 4 of Chapter 1 of the Rules, foreign correspondents accredited at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Russian Federation in accordance with the legislation of the Russian Federation, are accredited to the State Council of the Republic of Crimea.

An accredited journalist, a media professional, has the right to attend sessions of the State Council and its bodies and other events held in the State Council, except private sessions and events.

Bodies of the Prosecutor's Office of the Crimean Federal District have received no complaints concerning harassments of journalists in the territory of the District.

Members of the "Mejlis of the Crimean Tatar people" planned a series of protest actions aimed at destabilizing the situation in the Crimean Tatar community of the Republic of Crimea during the anniversary of the deportation of the Crimean Tatar people (18 May).

Thus, on 3 May 2015, the chairman "of the Mejlis of the Crimean Tatar people" Chubarov R.A. convened a private session of the "Mejlis" and asked the participants to submit applications to the authorities to allow a commemorative rally in Simferopol on 18 May 2015.

"Mejlis" radical functionaries planned to use an official refusal by Simferopol administration as a principal argument for organizing by community representatives unsanctioned rallies and discrediting Russia in the international arena on the basis of an alleged infringement of the rights of the Crimean Tatar people.

On 5 May 2015 deputy chairman of "Mejlis" Djelialov N.E., upon instructions of Chubarov R.A., notified the Simferopol City Council on the organization of a rally on 18 May 2015 in a place designated by the authorities for holding mass events near the Trade Unions' Crimean Republican Palace of Culture. Radical members of the "Mejlis of the Crimean Tatar people" Umerov I. and Khamzin A. were mentioned as organizing this event.

On 7 May 2015, the Simferopol administration examined the above-mentioned notification and decided not to endorse this event due to the fact that activities related to this date had been previously planned by the Council of Ministers of the Republic of Crimea.

On 14 May 2015, the Prosecutor's Office of the Republic of Crimea warned Djelialov N.E. about the inadmissibility of violating the legislation on countering extremist activity and the legislation on assemblies, rallies, demonstrations, marches and picketing.

On 15 May 2015, Umerov I. and Khamzin A. received similar warnings.

In addition, on 16 May 2015, within the framework of activities to mark the 71st anniversary of the deportation of the Crimean Tatar people, activists of public Crimean Tatar associations freely held event "Climbing to Chatyr-Dag 2015".

On 18 May 2015, the Day of Remembrance of the Victims of Deportation from Crimea, anybody who wanted to, laid flowers at memorials, laid a capsule at the construction site of the first memorial complex in the Bakhchisarai District and held a collective prayer of all religious faiths.

Thus, at 10:00, flowers were laid at the foundation stone in the park on the railway station square (Simferopol, Lenin Boulevard).

At 10:25, flowers were laid at the memorial to the victims of deportation at the boundaries of the Botanical Garden of the Tauride Academy "Crimean Federal V.I. Vernadsky University" (Federal State Autonomous Higher Education Institution).

At 10:50, flowers were laid at the memorial "Revival" (Simferopol, ulitsa Sevastopolskaya/pereulok Uchebnyi, 8, "the Crimean Engineering and Pedagogical University").

At 11:00, simultaneously in every temple, mosque and kenassa, a collective prayer was held according to religious canons of each denomination, calling for peace and avoidance of a recurrence of such a tragedy for any people.

At 12:00, at the railway station "Syren" of the Bakhchisaray District, a capsule was laid at the construction site of the memorial complex dedicated to the memory of victims of deportation from Crimea.

At 17:00 an evening-requiem dedicated to the Day of Remembrance of the Victims of Deportation from Crimea was organized (Simferopol, pr. Kirova, 17, "State Academic Musical Theater of the Republic of Crimea").

On 9 March 2015, a rally dedicated to the 201st anniversary of the birth of Taras Shevchenko took place in the Yuri Gagarin Park in Simferopol. During this rally, a number of violations of the Federal Law No. 54-FZ of 19 June 2004 "On assemblies, rallies, demonstrations, marches and picketing" was identified and documented.

Participants of the rally, activists of the Crimean Tatar national movement Abdullayev K.S., born in Uzbekistan, Aushev M.T., born in Uzbekistan, and KurtumerovZ ., born in the Bakhchisaray District, tried to use this public event as a "platform" for disseminating anti-Russian (separatist) slogans. In particular, they unfurled Ukrainian flag with the inscription "Krym – tseUkraïna!" ("Crimea is Ukraine!"). They also chanted corresponding slogans. On the basis of this fact, law enforcement authorities drew up a protocol on an administrative infraction under Art. 20.2 of the Co RF AI (Violation of the order of organizing or holding assemblies, rallies, demonstrations, marches or picketing) committed by Abdullayev K.S. as the organizer of the rally. On 30 March 2015, the Zheleznodorozhny District Court of Simferopol found Abdullayev K.S. guilty and sentenced him to 20 hours of compulsory work. On 26 June 2015, the Supreme Court of the Republic of Crimea changed this sentence to a fine of 10 thousand rubles.

Similar unauthorized events were held by members of the "Ukrainian Cultural Centre" Shukurdzhiyev V.S., Kuzmin L.A. and Kravchenko A. Law enforcement authorities drew up protocols on an administrative infraction under Art. 20.2 of the Co RF AI, committed by these individuals. On 12 March 2015, the Zheleznodorozhny District Court of Simferopol found Kravchenko, Shukurdzhiyev and Kuzmin guilty and sentenced each to 40 hours of compulsory work. On 20 April 2015, the Supreme Court of the Republic of Crimea changed Shukurdzhiyev's sentence to a fine of 20 thousand rubles. On 19 May 2015, the Supreme Court of the Republic of Crimea changed Kuzmin's sentence to a fine of 10 thousand rubles.

Concerning the refusal to permit on 23 February 2015 the commemoration of Crimean Tatar leader Noman Chelibedjihan: it was found that that the Crimean Republican Institution "Bakhchisaray Historical and Cultural Reserve" ("Khan Palace") is one of the most well-known and most visited Crimean museum-reserves. It includes 138 historical and architectural monuments and has over 140,000 exhibits in its collection. The Khan Palace is administered by the Ministry of Culture of the Republic of Crimea that has received no application or request to hold events dedicated to the day of memory of national Crimean Tatar leader Noman Chelibedjihan.

Concerning the refusal of local authorities to permit on 05 June 2015 a celebration by the Crimean Tatar organization "Youth" of the Day of the Crimean Tatar flag: it was found that on 25 May 2015 the Simferopol administration received a request of Inter-Regional public organization "Inter-Regional Public Movement of the Crimean Tatar people 'Qırım' " to hold

public cultural events aimed at "...celebrating the Day of the Crimean Tatar flag ... in the city of Simferopol from 26 to 28 June 2015."

This request was approved, as a result of which subsequent requests of other organizations and public associations to hold cultural events on these dates were rejected by the Simferopol administration.

In the period from 26 to 28 June 2015, the above-mentioned movement organized and carried out the following events:

- Public cultural events to celebrate the Day of the Crimean Tatar flag on V.I. Lenin Square (approximately 2,000 participants);
 - Public cultural events on the square between the building of the State Council of the Republic of Crimea and Pobeda Square (approximately 60 participants);
 - Public cultural events in Lenin Park (near the railway station) (approximately 1,000 participants);
 - Public cultural events in the pedestrian area running from "Palace of Culture" building to the bridge on ulitsa Kievskaya (approximately 1,000 participants);
 - Public cultural events in front of the business center "Console" (approximately 300 participants);
 - Public cultural events near the monument to I. Gasprinskiy on ulitsa Vorovskogo in Simferopol (approximately 300 participants);
 - Public cultural events in Yury Gagarin Park (approximately 500 participants);
 - Public cultural events on ulitsa Gurzufskaya, 26 (near the "Salgirka" park) (approximately 300 participants);
- Public cultural events on ulitsa Gurzufskaya, 60 (approximately 300 participants);
- Motor rally from the auto market in the Lugovoye District (Simferopol) to Yury Gagarin Park (approximately 300 cars).

On 7 May 2015, the administration of the Voinskoye municipality of the Republic of Crimea received a notification from Fucalo M.M. and Ametova S.I. on organizing on 18 May 2015 beginning with 5 p.m. a rally dedicated to the 71st anniversary of the deportation of the Crimean Tatar people.

On 13 May 2015, the organization of the rally was endorsed by the head of the administration of the Voinskoye municipality.

However, on 15 May 2015, the head of administration of the Voinskoye municipality amended the said endorsement and the format of the event was changed to "laying flowers."

The "Krasnoperekopsky" Inter-Municipal Branch of the Ministry of Internal Affairs of the Russian Federation officially warned Ametova S.I. that the holding of public events was allowed only in the format of laying flowers.

Despite this warning, on 18 May 2015 Ametova S.I. and Nemetulaev Y.Y. organized and held in the Voinskoye municipality a meeting dedicated to the 71st anniversary of the deportation of the

Crimean Tatar people. This being so, on 20 May 2015 the "Krasnoperekopsky" Inter-Municipal Branch of the Ministry of Internal Affairs of the Russian Federation drew up a protocol on an administrative infraction under Art. 20.2 of the Co RF AI committed by Nemetulaev Y.Y. and on 19 May 2015 – a protocol on an administrative infraction under Art. 20.2 of the Co RF AI committed by Ametova S.I.

On 20 June 2015 and 25 June 2015 the Krasnoperekopsky District Court found Ametova S.I. and Nemetulaev Y.Y., respectively, guilty and sentenced each to a fine of 10 thousand rubles.

The Chief Investigative Directorate for the Republic of Crimea of the Investigative Committee of Russia investigated a criminal case in connection with the infliction of mortal injuries to Korneeva V.D. and Postny I.A. during a rally near the building of the Verkhovnyaya Rada of the Autonomous Republic of Crimea. In the course of the investigation, a request to submit video recordings of the above-mentioned events was sent to TV company "Atlant-SV" (TV channel "ATR" is not registered among the media and has not received a broadcasting license of the Russian Federation). The broadcaster reported on the absence of video with the events of 26 February 2014.

On 26 January 2015, by the decision of the investigator taken with regard to the provisions of Art. 182 of the Code of Criminal Procedure of the Russian Federation, a search was carried out in TV company "Atlant-SV". On the basis of relevant instructions, agents of the Centre for Countering Extremism of the Ministry of Internal Affairs (hereinafter "CCE MIA") for the Republic of Crimea took part in this action.

During the search, video recordings of mass disorders of 26 February 2014 in front of the Supreme Council of the Autonomous Republic of Crimea building were found and confiscated.

The Prosecutor's Office of the Republic checked possible violations of procedural law by the Chief Investigative Directorate during the search and did not find them.

Journalists of TV Company "ATR" were also covering and broadcasting events of 3 May 2014 in the city of Armyansk during a meeting with Ukraine's MP Djemilev M.A., recording extremist statements of certain representatives of the "Mejlis of the Crimean Tatar people" and showing the so-called "live standups" from the locations of mass violations of public order.

In this regard, on 16 May 2014, the Prosecutor of the Republic of Crimea warned the founder of TV company "Atlant-SV" Islyamov L.E. and deputy director general of the broadcaster Bujurova L.R. about the inadmissibility of violating the law on countering extremist activity and the legislation on the media.

The Simferopol Central District Court, by its decisions of 18 September 2014 and 13 October 2014, rejected requests submitted by TV company "Atlant-SV" and Islyamova L.E., respectively, on the cancellation of Prosecutor's warnings.

According to the Directorate of Roskomnadzor for the Republic of Crimea and Sevastopol, TV Company "ATR" accompanies its reportages by extremely negative comments of radically-minded individuals and thus creates prerequisites for destabilizing the situation in the Republic of Crimea and creating a threat of extremism.

Information on the closing of channel "ATR" does not reflect the reality.

It should be noted that the State Television and Radio Company "Crimea" broadcasts Crimean Tatar content 11 hours per week (44 hours per month), which represents approximately 10% of

total TV broadcasting time. This proportion corresponds to the percentage of the Crimean Tatar population in the republic (about 12%) and, accordingly, cannot objectively violate their rights and legitimate interests.

After the accession of the Crimean Republic to the Russian Federation, activities of the **Crimean Directorate of Ukrainian state enterprise of postal communication "Ukrpochta"** in the Crimea were terminated. In accordance with the Provisional Regulations on Crimean republican enterprise of postal communication "Krympochta" approved by the decree of the State Council of the Republic of Crimea No. 1870-6/14 of 26 March 2014, postal services in Crimea since that date have been provided by this company.

Agents of the Gagarin District Branch of the Ministry of Internal Affairs of the Russian Federation in Sevastopol drew up a protocol concerning an administrative infraction under Art. 20.2 of the Co RF AI committed by Neganov V.V., an active participant of **an unauthorized rally** that took place on 24 August 2014.

On 8 September 2015, the Gagarin District Court found Neganov V.V. guilty of an administrative infraction under Art. 20.2 of the Co RF AI and sentenced him to a fine of 30 thousand rubles.

Interfaith relations

As of 1 January 2014, 1,409 religious organizations were registered in Crimea. More than 500 communities, mainly Muslim, operated without registration.

By September 2015, 161 religious organizations, including communities, were re-registered in the Crimea; the process of registration is underway for other organizations that applied in accordance with the procedure established by the law.

The period for re-registering statutory documents of religious associations of the Republic of Crimea was extended until 1 January 2016 in accordance with Russian legislation (Federal Law No. 80-FZ of 6.04.2015 "On Amendments to the Federal Law 'On Freedom of Conscience and on Religious Associations' and to Certain Legislative Acts of the Russian Federation").

On 27 February 2015, the Spiritual Directorate of the Muslims of Crimea (hereinafter "SDMC") was re-registered and is now referred to as Centralized Religious Organization "Spiritual Directorate of Muslims of Crimea and the City of Sevastopol." A number of Muslim communities was also re-registered.

The SDMC is a partner of the Crimean government. Abliev E. resumed his work in Interfaith Council "Peace Is the Gift of the God" attached to the Council of Ministers of the Republic of Crimea. Parishioners continue to visit churches of the Ukrainian Orthodox Church of the Kiev Patriarchate (hereinafter "UOC-KP"). As an example one can indicate the Cathedral of St. Prince Vladimir Equal-to-the-Apostles and St. Princess Olga Equal-to-the-Apostles in the centre of Simferopol, at the intersection of ulitsa Sevastopolskaya and ulitsa Kozlova. The Crimean diocese of the UOC-KP is also located at this address.

Inspections of mosques conducted in 2014-2015 in connection with the information of Russia's FSB and the Ministry of Internal Affairs of Russia identified more than 100 extremist books included in the federal list of extremist materials. The bodies of the Prosecutor's Office issued more than 20 decisions to initiate proceedings of an administrative infraction under art. Art. 20.2 of the Co RF AI (Production and distribution of extremist materials). All the perpetrators (the imams of mosques) were brought to administrative responsibility in the form of fines and confiscation of the literature that was found.

In the Republic of Crimea activities are carried out by religious Muslim communities of the Spiritual Centre of Muslims of Crimea (hereinafter "SCMC"), which are not registered in accordance with the legislation of the Russian Federation and by their actions violate applicable laws.

A number of violations was identified during inspections carried out jointly with the FSB Directorate for the Republic of Crimea and Sevastopol, the CCE MIA for the Republic of Crimea and the Chief Directorate of the Emergencies Ministry of the Russian Federation for the Republic of Crimea (hereinafter "CD EM") at registered addresses of the following communities: "HakYol" (ulitsa A. Umerova., 21, the city of Alushta), "AlushtaKysmet"(ulitsa Vinogradnaya, 51, the city of Alushta), "Cherkez-Kermen"(ulitsaChapaeva, 61, Apt. 3, the city of Bakhchisarai), "Dauat-Jami" (ulitsa Tractornaya, 7, the village of Vilino, Bakhchisarai District), "BereketDjemat Jami" (ulitsa Sadovaya, 2, the village of Krasnoznamenka, Krasnogvardeysky District), "AkykatElu" (ulitsa Shkolnaya, 15, the village of Partizanskoye, Simferopol District), "Mukhtasar" (ulitsa Zapadnaya, 13, the city of Simferopol), "Jemat" (ulitsa Gagarina, 17-B, the village of Vorobyovo, Saki District), the SCMC (ulitsa 60 let Oktiabria, 20, Apt. 39).

Thus, the inspection of "Alushta Kysmet" community (ulitsa Vinogradnaya, 51, the village of Izobilnoye, the city of Alushta) revealed that at this address there is a plot of land with an unfinished house. Being interviewed, Mazinova A.I. explained that she received this plot in 1990 and sold it in November 2014 to a man named Nikolai from the city of Izhevsk. Earlier, at the request of members of the SCMC, Mazinova A.I. gave her consent to the registration of the said community at this address. She has never taken and does not take any part in the activities of the community. Members of the community have never had assemblies at this address.

The inspection of "HakYol" community (ulitsa A. Umerova, 21, the city of Alushta) revealed that this address is a private household that is home to Absutov A.R. and his family. Absutov A.R. explained that in 2013 he and a number of individuals whose names he did not remember, registered "HakYol" community. However, the assemblies of community members are not held at the registered address but in a rented hall located at ulitsa Oktiabrskaya, 50, in the city of Alushta.

The inspection of "Cherkez-Kermen" community (ulitsa Chapaeva, 61, Apt. 3, the city of Bakhchisarai) found that this address is an apartment belonging as a shared property to Emirov S.B. and his family. Emirov S.B. is the chairman of the community, the members of which, up to 4-5 people, gather at his home. To carry out the lessons his apartment is visited by the chairman of the SCMC, Seitveliev Ruslan Narimanovich. He did not remember the names of the founders of the community.

The inspection of "Dauat-Jami" community (ulitsa Tractornaya, 7, the village of Vilino, Bakhchisarai District) revealed that the owner of the house was Umirbaev M.M. who confirmed the registration of a community at this address. However, he himself did not register the community and is not its head. Every Friday about 6-8 people meet at his home for prayer. The chairman of the community is Medjitov Z.U. who also lives in Vilino.

The inspection of "BereketDzhemat Jami" Muslim community (ulitsa Sadovaya, 2, the village of Krasnoznamenka, Krasnogvardeysky District) revealed that the house is owned by Emirov F.Z. who is also the chairman of the community. No assemblies or prayer services are carried out at the registered address of the community. Members of the community are F.Z. Emirov's relatives. ctually they have no connections with the community and do not take part in its assemblies. Emirov F.Z. officially does not work.

The inspection of "AkykatElu" community (ulitsa Shkolnaya, 15, the village of Partizanskoye, Simferopol District) revealed that the owner of the household is Bilyalova K. The latter was interviewed and explained that a few years ago Eskender Ilyasov asked her to register a religious community at her address. After this conversation with him she did not see Ilyasov E., did not transfer the documents for home ownership to anyone and did not sign a power of attorney. At her address nobody gathered and collective prayers were not held.

Chairman of "AkykatElu" community Ilyasov E.E. was interviewed and explained that documents for registering the community were provided by one of its members, Bilyalov A., who lives at ulitsa Shkolnaya, 15, the village of Partizanskoye, Simferopol District. Community assemblies took place either at A.Bilyalov's domiciliary, or in the premises of the SCMC. The founders of the community included the family of Bilyalovs; he could not remember the others.

The inspection of "Jemat" community (ulitsa Gagarina, 17-B, the village of Vorobyovo, Saki District) revealed that the community was registered at an empty plot of land. The owner of the plot is Alimegjitov A.R. who is not a member of the community.

Community's chairperson Osmanova Z.Kh. explained that: she knows only two members of the community (out of 10); she does not know the registered address of the community; assemblies do not take place. She was asked by Shemshedinov Lenur to register herself as the chairman of the community. She did not know which religious ideas were professed by the community. One of the members of the community, Shemshedinov V.N., explained that at present the community does not exercise any activities and that Shemshedinov L.V. is his son.

The inspection of "Mukhtasar" religious community (ulitsa Zapadnaya, 13, the city of Simferopol) revealed that its chairman Azizov P.A. resides at this address. The community has its own charter, as well as an extract from the Unified State Register of Legal Entities and Individual Entrepreneurs. His domiciliary regularly hosts community assemblies and collective prayers that are attended by the chairman of the SCMC.

A visit to the actual location of the SCMC established that the organization was located in a private house at ulitsa Pervoi Konnoy Armii in the city of Simferopol. Chairman of the SCMC Seitveliev R.N. who was present during the visit, provided no documents of the organization and stated that all the documents were submitted to the Russian Ministry of Justice for registration. Neither were provided documents confirming the endorsement of assemblies of SCMC members and their communities, as well as collective prayers at this address.

The inspection of the registered address of the SCMC (ulitsa 60 let Oktiabria, 20, Apt. 39) revealed that the owner of the apartment is R.N. Seitveliev's brother, Seitveliev E.N. No one lives in the apartment. In the territory adjacent to the house, an annexed apartment of 264.5 sq.m. is built.

This annex houses a sewing workshop, a bakery, a pharmacy and a store of household chemicals. Most of these premises were rented out by Seitveliev E.N. to third parties who carry out business activities there. At the same time, the apartment is not currently transferred from residential to non-residential category. The premises do not correspond to the technical data sheet of the apartment.

Thus, the implementation of business activities in these premises at present contradicts the requirements of Art. 17 of the Housing Code of the Russian Federation.

An inspection carried out by agents from the CD EM of Russia in the Republic of Crimea revealed significant violations of fire safety rules.

The Prosecutor's Office of Simferopol have organized screening actions on the legality of business activities at ulitsa 60 let Oktiabria, 20, Apt. 39, of the construction works and of the operationalization of the annexed premises.

Concerning the refusal of the Russian Federal Migration Service Directorate (hereinafter "FMSD") for the Republic of Crimea to extend temporary residence permits for representatives of religious communities, including Turkish imams and religious teachers of the Crimean Muftiat, and their compulsory departure from the Russian Federation: it was found that in 2015 1,257 Turkish citizens left the territory of the republic. The number of Turkish imams and religious teachers of the Crimean Muftiat of the total number of Turkish citizens who have left the territory of the republic, is not known due to lack of appropriate accounting.

The main reason for the departure of Turkish citizens from the Russian Federation was the need to collect a number of documents for a temporary permit to reside in the Russian Federation or a resident card.

As of 14 September 2015, Russia's FMSD for the Republic of Crimea issued temporary permits to reside in the Russian Federation to 18 Turkish citizens and exchanged Ukrainian resident cards of 109 Turkish citizens to Russian resident cards.

Concerning the refusal to extend the residence card of the dean of a Roman Catholic parish in Simferopol, Rosohatski P., and his compulsory departure from the Russian Federation: it was found that he is a Polish citizen residing in the territory of the republic on the basis of a temporary residence certificate of Ukraine. On 24 April 2015, the commission on the use of Crimea's 2015 quota for permits for temporary residence in the Russian Federation decided to grant to Rosohatski P. a temporary residence permit. However, up to date Russia's FMSD for the Republic of Crimea has received from him no application/documents for a temporary residence permit.

Since 1 April 2014, in the city of Sevastopol there have been no cases of forced closure of churches/temples of the Ukrainian Orthodox Church of the Kiev Patriarchate or other religious denominations, or of harassment of Orthodox Ukrainians by creating barriers to visiting church buildings by the clergy and parishioners. Searches in churches, mosques and temples have not been carried out and the pressure on religious communities has not been exerted. This was confirmed by interviewed clergy of the Ukrainian Orthodox Church of the Kiev Patriarchate and the prior of the parish of St. Martyr Clement of Rome. In particular, there have been no conflicts with representatives of authorities or other faiths, no harassment or pressure on them, and no searches.

Moreover, 12 sites in Sevastopol formerly owned by the state were gratuitously returned to religious organizations.

In total, the city has 137 religious organizations: 29 denominations, including 3 monasteries of the Ukrainian Orthodox Church, 1 monastery of the Ukrainian Orthodox Church of the Kiev Patriarchate, 1 nunnery, 97 religious communities and 29 Sunday schools with an enrollment of 1,200 children.

As of 14 September 2015, 76 local religious organizations applied for registration and send their requests to the Chief Directorate of the Ministry of Justice of the Russian Federation for the Republic of Crimea and the city of Sevastopol. Five religious organizations of the total were registered in the city and 23 were re-registered. Registration was denied to 38 organizations.

The main reasons for the denial of state registrations to non-profit organizations are the following: improper preparation of documents presented to a territorial body of Russia's Ministry of Justice and the contradiction of these documents to federal laws "On Non-Profit Organizations" or "On Freedom of Conscience and Religious Associations" (e.g., state registration was denied to regional public organization «Cultural and Educational Centre of Sevastopol 'Brahma Kumaris'", regional public organization "Union of Ukrainians of Sevastopol 'Prosvita'", local religious Organization of Evangelical Christians (Pentecostals), Christian church "New Generation" in Sevastopol, Sevastopol local religious organization "The Church of Open Hearts' of Evangelical Christians-Baptists, Sevastopol regional public organization "Centre for Contemporary Highest Spiritual Culture 'Absolutism'", local public organization "Horticultural Non-Profit Association 'UTES'", local religious organization "The Church of Evangelical Christians' The City of God Worship'", local religious organization of "Miunevver" Muslim community and local religious organization "The Church of Christians of Evangelical Faith 'Jesus the Lord'").

The period of bringing necessary documents into line with Russian legislation has been extended until 1 January .2016. In order to help the applicants to prepare proper documentation, the personnel of the Chief Directorate of the Ministry of Justice of the Russian Federation for the Republic of Crimea and the city of Sevastopol are receiving daily the citizens to explain them the procedure of re-registration, holding workshops.

In the territory of Sevastopol there is no religious building "The Church of St. Clement of Rome". There is a monastery in honor of St. Martyr Clement of Simferopol and the Crimean Diocese of the Ukrainian Orthodox Church.

The city has the Roman Catholic Parish of St. Martyr Clement of Rome, which holds services near cinema "Druzhba" on Ushakov Square at ulitsaSchmidta, 1.

The Sevastopol Roman Catholic Church was built in 1905-1911. The construction was designed by military engineer Tretesky N.I.and funded by of the Roman Catholic community of Sevastopol. Kozlovsky F.A., the then Odessa Military District Chaplain, was at that time the priest of the parish.

On 19 November 1922 and 25 December 1930, the Sevastopol District Executive Committee signed with a group of believers contracts on an indefinite and gratuitous use of the premises and property of the church.

Given the failure to fulfil these contracts (the building was not properly maintained and repaired), Insufficient funding, lack of priests (arrested by the NKVD) and small numbers of parishioners, the Presidium of the Sevastopol City Council on 1 November 1936 and the Central Executive Committee of the Crimean Autonomous Soviet Socialist Republic on 26 December 1936 decided to liquidate the Roman Catholic Church which did not operate since the beginning of 1936 and to hand over the building to the Sevastopol City Council for using it as a cultural and educational establishment.

On 11 November 1937, the Presidium of the Sevastopol City Council rejected the application of believers to lease the said building.

According to the record of the state of devastations in the city of Sevastopol of 1945, the building of a former church, which housed at that time the city radio unit, in 1941-1942 was destroyed by 50%.

By decisions of the Sevastopol City Council of 20 September 1958 and 20 December 1958, the plot of land with the ruins of the former church was handed over to the Directorate of Culture for constructing a permanent widescreen cinema for 360 places of 1.3 thousand sq. m upon the project of Sevastopol city architectural design office "Gorproekt." The USSR State Bank opened funding from the local budget with an estimate of 807.1 thousand rubles. On 1 August 1960, the cinema building was put into service.

In 1991-2014, this building continued to serve as a cinema, as the Law of Ukraine "On Freedom of Conscience and Religious Organizations" and the presidential decree of 4 March 1992 "On the Means of Returning Religious Property to Religious Organizations", concerning the transfer of religious buildings used for other purposes to religious communities for ownership or free use, did not apply to this building, because the church in fact was destroyed in 1941-1942 and since 1960 was not a place of worship, while the cinema building was built at the expense of the local budget on the place of its ruins.

In accordance with Ukraine's Cabinet of Ministers' decree No. 311 of 5 November 1991 and Sevastopol City Council's decision No. 103 of 21 July 1992, cinema "Druzhba" was transferred to the Sevastopol City State Administration as an object of communal property.

By decision of the Directorate of Property Management of the Sevastopol City State Administration No. 100 of 7 April 1999, the cinema building, which is on the balance of SCE "Druzhba", was registered as a communal property.

On 21 September 2000, the Arbitration Court of the city of Sevastopol rejected the claim from the Roman Catholic community in Sevastopol for annulment of that decision.

The Sevastopol City Council by its decision No. 1311 of 13 September 2011 refused to grant consent to the donation of the cinema "Druzhba" building to a religious community – the Roman Catholic community of St. Martyr Clement of Rome in Sevastopol and Simferopol and the Odessa-Simferopol Diocese of the Roman Catholic Church in Ukraine. The cinema building was on the balance sheet of SCE "Druzhba", beginning with 31 March 2011 – CE "Kinomir" and beginning with 30 October 2012 – CE "Kinovideoprokat."

The law enforcement authorities of the city have received from the monastery of St. Martyr Clement, or from the Roman Catholic parish of St. Martyr Clement of Rome, or their superiors no complaints concerning violations of their rights, or illegal acts against, or pressure on, them.

In 2015, the Chief Directorate of the Ministry of Justice of the Russian Federation for the Republic of Crimea and the city of Sevastopol registered local religious organization "Parish of St. Clement of the Roman Catholic Church in the city of Sevastopol."

Facts of an attack in the church of Assumption of the Blessed Virgin on the priest of the Ukrainian Greek Catholic Church in March 2014 or a destruction of the church property have not been registered.

No procedural decisions have been taken on the fact of finding on 15 March 2014 ten bulletproof vests (4th grade of protection) in the city of Sevastopol in the apartment of Father Nikolai Kvysh, a priest of a Catholic religious organization.

The right to education

The official language of the Russian Federation throughout its territory is Russian. Article 14, para. 1 of the Federal Law No. 273-FZ of 29 December 2012 "On Education in the

Russian Federation" guarantees education in the Russian Federation in the state language of the Russian Federation, as well as the choice of the language of learning and education within the possibilities provided by the education system.

In accordance with Art. 10 of the Constitution of the Republic of Crimea of 11 April 2014, the state languages in the republic are Russian, Ukrainian and Crimean Tatar.

The right of the citizens of the Republic of Crimea to preschool, primary general and basic general education in their mother tongue and the right to study their mother tongue, are ensured by creating necessary numbers of appropriate educational establishments, school classes and groups, as well as the conditions for their functioning.

Teaching and learning the Ukrainian and Crimean Tatar languages are carried out in educational establishments on the basis of parents' applications. Classes with instruction in one of the above-mentioned languages or groups where they are studied, are formed in general educational establishments on the basis of population's needs.

In the 2014/15 academic year, general educational establishments in the Republic of Crimea enrolled 184,869 children including 177,984 children studying in Russian as the language of instruction (96.2% of the total), 4,895 children studying in Crimean Tatar (2.7%) and 1,990 children studying in Ukrainian (1.1%). The Ukrainian language as a school subject was studied by 39,150 students (21.2%) and the Crimean Tatar language – by 13,040 students (7%).

The Ukrainian language and literature are studied on the basis of textbooks published in Ukraine, as there are no textbooks published in accordance with the federal state educational standards of the Russian Federation. Textbooks used for other subjects are inscribed into the Federal List of Textbooks in the Russian language.

Pursuant to the order of the Ministry of Education, Science and Youth of the Republic of Crimea No. 103 of 21 July 2014 "On the organization of work with educational literature", the bibliographical funds of educational establishments in the Republic of Crimea continue to include textbooks of the Ukrainian language and literature, which are still being used in the educational process.

Textbooks that were published in Ukraine and are not used in the learning process, are stored in library archives of general educational organizations. The Ministry of Education, Science and Youth of the Republic of Crimea, as well as district administrations of general educational establishments, have taken no decisions to dispose textbooks in Ukrainian.

Basic training of teachers of the Crimean Tatar and Ukrainian languages is carried out by a state-financed institution of higher education of the Republic of Crimea, the "Crimean Engineering and Pedagogical University", and by the philological faculty of the Taurian Academy of V.I. Vernadsky Crimean Federal University. In addition, the above-mentioned University trains teachers-philologists in the following fields: "The Ukrainian language and literature and the Crimean Tatar language and literature"; "The Crimean Tatar language and literature and the Russian language and literature"; "The Crimean Tatar language and literature and the English language" and "The Crimean Tatar language and literature and the Turkish language."

The above-mentioned University also trains specialists for preschool and primary educational establishments with the Crimean Tatar and Ukrainian languages of instruction.

All the graduates of general educational establishments in 2014 received 19,603 Russian educational certificates. On applications of students or their parents/legal representatives, the Ministry of Education, Science and Youth of the Republic of Crimea issued 272 certificates of complete secondary education and annexes to them in a format approved by the Cabinet of Ministers of Ukraine. Graduates of secondary vocational educational establishments received 9,056 Russian diplomas. In addition, 22 students received by their request Ukrainian diplomas. University graduates received Russian diplomas: 7,768 bachelors, 784 specialists and 7,027 masters. University graduates did not apply for Ukrainian diplomas.

The republican Prosecutor's Office have received no complaints on this matter.

In the territory of Sevastopol, educational activities in all educational institutions are carried out in Russian. According to the Sevastopol's statistical service, ethnic composition of the city is the following: Russians – 269,953 (71.6%), Ukrainians – 84,420 (22.4%), Belarusians – 5,872 (1.6%), Tatars – 2,512 (0.7%), Crimean Tatars – 1,858 (0.5%), Armenians – 1,319 (0.3%), Jews – 1,016 (0.3%), Moldovans – 801 (0.2%), Azerbaijanians – 629 (0.2%), Poles – 580 (0.1%), Chuvashes – 508 (0.1%), Mordvinians – 366 (0.1%), Bulgarians – 405 (0.1%), Georgians – 363 (0.1%), Germans – 254 (0.1%), nationality not specified – 3,820 (1.0%), other nationalities – 2,477 (0.6%).

According to Russia's statistical service, as of 1 July 2015 the population of Sevastopol has reached 408,433 inhabitants and continues to grow as a result of external and internal migrations.

In the city there are four districts which are densely inhabited by national diasporas. Thus, in the Balaklava District (Orlinovsky village council), the villages of Shturmovoje, Chernorechie, Ternovka and Rodnikovoye in the Baydarskaya Valley house the diaspora of Crimean Tatars. The total population of these villages reaches 6,207 inhabitants, including 1,775 Crimean Tatars. In the territory of the Ternovo village council there are 3,050 inhabitants, including 670 Crimean Tatars. In the village of Ternivka there are 2,230 inhabitants, including 350 Crimean Tatars. The villages of Oboronnoje and Flotskoye house Greeks. The village of Shturmovoje is densely inhabited by the Kyrgyz diaspora.

In addition, 772 families (3,284 persons) of deported peoples of Crimea have arrived recently to the territory of the Balaklava district.

As of 18 March 2014, teaching in the Russian and Ukrainian languages was carried out in 3 Sevastopol educational establishments: schools Nos. 5, 8 and 837. On 1 September 2014, by parents' requests, the Ukrainian language of instruction was replaced by Russian. Children study Ukrainian as a school subject, as well as an optional subject when they wish to.

In the 2014/15 academic year, the Ukrainian language was studied by students of grades I-XI in 47 out of 64 general educational establishments of the city. In particular, Ukrainian was studied in 9 educational establishments as a school subject, in 9 – both as a school and an optional subject in selected classes, in 3 – in study groups and in 26 educational establishments – as an optional subject.

In the 2015/16 academic year, the Ukrainian language is studied by students of grades I-XI in 11 out of 64 educational establishments of the city. In particular, Ukrainian is studied in 3 educational establishments as a school subject, in 7 – as an optional subject and in 3 – in study groups.

The executive authorities of Sevastopol have not promulgated any regulatory instruments on a prohibition of learning in the Ukrainian language or teaching school subjects "The Ukrainian language" or "The Ukrainian literature" in city educational establishments.

According to the Chief Directorate of Education and Science of Sevastopol, in the summer of 2014 educational literature for Ukraine's curriculum was collected, systematized and dispatched to the cities of Donetsk and Lugansk for use in educational activities.

As of 18 March 2014, in the educational establishments of the city employed 280 teachers of the Ukrainian language and literature. As today, 86 of them teach the Ukrainian language, 113 fulfil other pedagogical functions in Sevastopol schools and 61 resigned.

Activities of sport and scientific institutions

Concerning the transfer of the ownership of a number of sport facilities to the Republic of Crimea as state property: it was established that on 6 June 1955, by a decision of the Presidium of the Board of Ukrainian society "Spartak" No. 3, Republican Sport Training and Tourist Centre of the Board of Ukrainian society "Spartak" was created in Alushta. By decision of the Federation of Trade Unions of Ukraine No. P-23-4 of 8 December 2005, this Centre was renamed "Establishment of the Federation of Trade Unions of Ukraine 'Olympic Sport Training Centre Spartak'" (hereinafter "EFTU OSTC 'Spartak'").

On the basis of the State Land Use Entitlement of 4 June 1999, the EFTU OSTC 'Spartak' used the land plot of 9.3833 hectares at ulitsa Perekopskaya, 9 in Alushta.

By decrees of the State Council of the Republic of Crimea No. 1745-6/14 of 17 March 2014 "On the Independence of Crimea" and No. 2085-6/14 of 30 April 2014 "On Managing Property of the Republic of Crimea", the assets of the EFTU OSTC 'Spartak' are the property of the Republic of Crimea. Since June 2014, it is run by the Ministry of Sports of the Republic of Crimea.

By decision of the Council of Ministers of Crimea No. 1301-r of 8 December 2014 "On the Liquidation, Reorganization and Creation of State-Financed Establishments and Organizations of the Republic of Crimea", the EFTU OSTC 'Spartak' was liquidated.

Pursuant to the decision of the Council of Ministers of the Republic of Crimea No. 172 of 6 March 2015, the Ministry of Sports of the Republic of Crimea created State Autonomous Establishment of the Republic of Crimea "Centre for Coaching Sport Teams of the Republic of Crimea 'Spartak'" and transferred to it the assets of the EFTU OSTC 'Spartak'.

Concerning the arguments about the use of the assets of the enterprise "National Centre of Paralympic and Deaflympic Training and Rehabilitation for People with Disabilities" of Ukraine's National Committee of Sport of People with Disabilities (village of Zaozerno, city of Yevpatoriya): it was established that, in accordance with the instructions of the President of the Russian Federation of 24 April 2014, Ukraine's ownership for the enterprise is retained.

Ukraine's National Committee of Sport of People with Disabilities by its decision No. 33 of 4 December 2014 established a limited liability company "National Centre of Paralympic and Deaflympic Training and Rehabilitation of People with Disabilities", which is the legal successor of the enterprise and uses its facilities for coaching and preparing athletes for international competitions and Paralympic and Deaflympic Games. On 23 January 2015, information on registering this company was inscribed into the Unified State Register of Legal Entities.

Non-residential buildings and structures of training sport centre "Dynamo" of the "Dynamo" sport society of Ukraine (ulitsa Kurortnaya, 12, city of Feodosia) belonged as a collective property to the above-mentioned society on the basis of the certificate of 20 December 2000 issued by the Executive Committee of the Feodosia City Council.

This immovable property is located on a plot of 5.16 hectares, with was transferred for permanent use to training spor tcentre "Dynamo" by the State Act of 16 February 1995.

In accordance with para. 1 of decree of the State Council of the Republic of Crimea No. 2007-6/14 of 11 April 2014 "On State Unitary Enterprise of the Republic of Crimea'Crimea-Sport' ", the said property was recognized as the property of the Republic of Crimea.

By decision of the Council of Ministers of the Republic of Crimea No. 1047-p of 15 October 2014, state-financed entity of the Republic of Crimea "Regional Sports Training Centre'Crimea-Sport' " was created, which administers the said property on the basis of operational management.

By the decision of the Government of Sevastopol No. 694 of 31 December 2014, Sevastopol's state-financed entity "Sport and Recreation Centre in honor of the 200th Anniversary of Sevastopol" was created. By decree of the Government of Sevastopol No. 590-RP of 13 July 2015, this Centre, on the basis of the right to operational management, administers three outdoor swimming pools with different premises, tennis courts and an athletics stadium with stands.

By decision of the Government of Sevastopol No. 111-PP of 24 February 2015, the Marine Hydrophysical Institute and A.O.KovalevskyInstitute of Marine Biological Research are assigned to the city of Sevastopol. The Government of the Russian Federation by its decree No. 599-p of 9 April 2015 created federal state-financed entity of science "A.O.Kovalevsky Institute of Marine Biological Research" and federal state-financed entity of science "Marine Hydrophysical Institute of the Russian Academy of Sciences."

The staff of the institutes is retained except for the employees who wished to pursue their career in other scientific organizations of the city of Sevastopol. Scientific collections are also retained, including unique scientific publications in the libraries and museum of the institutes.

The Federal Agency of Scientific Organizations provides constant and regular funding for research activities of the institutes.

Budget funding of research activities of the institutes as compared to the Ukrainian period increased by 250 percent, and the average salary of researchers increased by over 200 per cent.

Criminal cases

On 2 February 2015, the Investigative Department of Russia's FSB Directorate for the Republic of Crimea and Sevastopol opened a criminal case under Part. 2 of Art. 280.1 of Russia's Criminal Code in relation to unidentified persons' public calls for action aimed at violating the territorial integrity of the Russian Federation.

The preliminary investigation found that Andrievskaya A.D. in violation of Federal Law No. 114-FZ of 25 July 2002 "On Countering Extremist Activity" (as amended by Federal Laws No. 148-FZ of 27 June 2006 and No. 211-FZ of 24 July 2007), which prohibits using public communication networks for extremist activities, publicly called for action aimed at violating the

territorial integrity of the Russian Federation by using information and telecommunication networks (including Internet).

On 20 July 2015, the investigating officer issued formal notice of the charges filed against Andriyevskaya A.D. as an accused of a crime under Part. 2 of Art. 280.1 of Russia's Criminal Code.

On 9 May 2015, the Investigative Department of Russia's FSB Directorate for the Republic of Crimea and Sevastopol opened and investigates a criminal case against Chirniy A.V. and other unidentified persons under Part 2 of Art. 205.4, Part 1 of Art. 30 – para. (a) of Part 2 of Art. 30 – Part 3 of Art. 222 of Russia's Criminal Code.

The preliminary investigation revealed that on 9 September 2014 in Simferopol Ukrainian citizens Chirniy A.V., Sentsov O.G., Afanasiev G.S. and Kolchenko A.A., supporters of nationalist organization "Right Sector", made preparations for exploding the Eternal Flame Memorial with the aim of destabilizing activities of the authorities and exerting influence on their decisions.

According to information on the official website of the "Mejlis of the Crimean Tatar people", which circulates in the media, on 2 May 2014 the "Mejlis" decided to condemn the ban by the competent authorities of the Russian Federation on free entry of Djemilev M.A. into Crimea, as well as to hold on 3 May 2014 an action of greeting Djemilev M.A. at the entrance to Crimea at checkpoint "Armiansk" on the state border (Turetsky val).

Prior to these events, taking into account available information on possible illegal actions containing signs of extremist activity, the Prosecutor's Office of the Republic, in accordance with the Federal Law "On Countering Extremist Activity", on 23 April 2014 warned Chairman of the "Mejlis of the Crimean Tatar people" Chubarov R.A. and Director General of charitable organization "Crimea Fund" Shevkiev R.F. about the inadmissibility of violation of the law in order to prevent unlawful acts during events dedicated to the Spring and Labor Day, feast of Hydrylez, Victory Day and the Day of Remembrance of Victims of Deportation. Warning was also issued to Avamileva E, a prominent activist of the Mejlis, in connection with the situation that emerged as a result of provocative actions, including the placement of the state flag of Ukraine on the building of the "Mejlis of the Crimean Tatar people" in Simferopol.

On 3 May 2014, despite these warnings, a group of Crimean Tatars (a total of 1 500 to 2 500 people) arrived to checkpoint "Armiansk" on the state border of the Russian Federation. Around 12 a.m. Ukrainian MP Djemilev M.A. and his party arrived on the border from Ukraine. The above-mentioned Crimean Tatars violently pushed off law enforcement officers, crossed the border of the Russian Federation and formed a "live" corridor in order to enable Djemilev M.A. to cross the border towards the Russian Federation.

In this situation the Council of Ministers of Crimea on 3 May 2014 has sent to the checkpoint units of the People's Militia of Crimea which acted jointly and in cooperation with special units of Russia's Ministry of Internal Affairs, Federal Security Service and interior military forces.

During these unauthorized activities groups of Crimean Tatars instructed by Djemilev M.A. and leaders and activists of the "Mejlis of the Crimean Tatar people" blocked traffic on the motorway "Kherson – Kerch» (115th km), as well as on automobile roads in 7 other regions of the republic. As of 16 June 2014, police identified the persons who committed these offenses and drew up in respect of them protocols on administrative infractions considered by the courts on their merits. Administrative sanctions in the form of a fine were imposed on 158 persons.

On 4 May 2015, the Investigative Department for the city of Armiansk of the Chief Investigative Directorate of the Investigative Committee of the Russian Federation for the Republic of Crimea opened a criminal case under Part. 2 of Art.318 of Russia's Criminal Code on the fact of violence against a government representative.

With regard to Djemilev M.A. the competent authority of the Russian Federation (Russia's Federal Security Service), in accordance with the Federal Law "On the Procedure for Exit from, and Entry to, the Russian Federation" on 19 April 2014 found his stay in the Russian Federation undesirable for a period of 5 years.

On 5 July 2014, the commanding officer of border squad at checkpoint "Djankoy-autodorozhnyi" of the Border Guard Directorate of the Federal Security Service of Russia for the Republic of Crimea, on the basis of the decision adopted by FSB, presented to Chubarov R.A.the notice for a foreign citizen of non-permission of entry into the Russian Federation until 4 July 2019.

On the same grounds the competent authority took a similar decision in respect of Yuksel I.

Since the end of 2014, vigorous activities are carried out by the "Committee on Protecting the Rights of the Crimean Tatar people", coordinated by members of the "Mejlis of the Crimean Tatar people" Bariev E.E., Suleymanov A.M. and Kadyrov S.A. In order to prevent extremism, in December 2014 the Prosecutor's Office announced warnings to these persons.

In addition, on 23 January 2015, the Armiansk City Court examined the protocol of the Directorate of Russia's Federal Migration Service for the Republic of Crimea on an administrative offense, found Kadyrov S.A.guilty of an offense under Part 1.1 of Art. 18.8 of Co RF AI (Violation of the stay in Russia) and sentenced him to a fine of 2 000 rubles and administrative extradition from the Russian Federation in the form of voluntary controlled unassisted exit from the country.

Thus, the Prosecutor's Office of the republic jointly with Russia's FSB, Ministry of Internal Affairs and other bodies adopted a set of precautionary and preventive measures aimed at preventing and countering potential extremist manifestations and other protest actions in the republic.

The "Mejlis of the Crimean Tatar people" at its session of 12 June 2014 decided not to nominate candidates to the State Council of the Republic of Crimea and municipal representative bodies, as well as to call upon all the inhabitants of Crimea to boycott the elections scheduled for 14 September 2014.

On 26 June 2014,during the celebration in Simferopol residential area "Fontany" of the Day of the Crimean Tatar flag, Chairman of the "Mejlis of the Crimean Tatar people" Chubarov R.A. publicly called for a boycott of the elections to the State Council of the Republic of Crimea.

On the basis of Art. 7 of the Federal Law No. 114-FZ of 25 July 2002 "On Countering Extremist Activity" Prosecutor of the Republic of Crimea on 5 July 2014 warned the"Mejlis of the Crimean Tatar people" represented by its Chairman Chubarov R.A. about the inadmissibility of extremist activity.

In relation to public calls for actions aimed at violating the territorial integrity of the Russian Federation with the use of the media, **on 29 May 2015 the Investigative Department of Russia's FSB Directorate for the Republic of Crimea and Sevastopol opened a criminal case** under Part. 2 of Art. 280.1 of Russia's Criminal Code against Ukrainian citizen Chubarov R.A.

The preliminary investigation found that on 1 April 2015 Chubarov R.A., being interviewed in Kiev (Ukraine) by leading Ukrainian TV "Channel 5", said: "...For us, the war will end only when Crimea will be a part of the Ukrainian state... ", thus calling for actions aimed at violating the territorial integrity of the Russian Federation.

On the same day, 1 April 2015, video with this interview of Chubarov R.A. was posted on «YouTube», citing a source publication – the official website of Ukrainian TV "Channel 5".

On 2 April 2015, an article with excerpts from R.A.Chubarov's interview translated into Russian was published on the resource of IT net Internet "Informational portal on event in Crimea" under the heading "Head of Mejlis: war with Russia will end only after the return of Crimea."

In 2015, the Investigative Department of Russia's Federal Security Service Directorate for the Republic of Crimea and Sevastopol opened 4 criminal cases of a terrorist nature:

–On 22 January 2015, under Part 1 of Art. 205.5 of the Criminal Code of the Russian Federation in respect of Zeytullaeva R.B. who was detained on 23 January 2015 in accordance with Art. 91 of the Code of Criminal Procedure and remanded into custody on the same day as a preventive measure;

–On 22 January 2015, under Part 2 of Art. 205.5 of the Criminal Code of the Russian Federation in connection with the participation of unidentified persons in terrorist organization "Islamic Liberation Party" (Hizbut-Tahrir al-Islami). On 22 January 2015, Primov Y.V. and Vaitov R.M. were detained in accordance with Art. 91 of the Code of Criminal Procedure and remanded into custody on the same day as a preventive measure. On 7 September 2015, the period of preliminary investigation was extended until 22 November 2015;

–On 1 April 2015, under Part 2 of Art. 205.5 of the Criminal Code of the Russian Federation in respect of Sayfullaev F.R. who was detained on 2 April 2015 in accordance with Art. 91 of the Code of Criminal Procedure and remanded into custody on the same day as a preventive measure. On 7 September 2015, the period of preliminary investigation was extended to ten months, i.e., until 22 November 2015.

During the investigation of the above-mentioned criminal cases, on the basis of the decision of a senior investigator of the Investigation Department of Russia's Federal Security Service Directorate for the Republic of Crimea and Sevastopol to conduct an immediate search at domicile, on 28 January 2015 in the dwelling used by Vaitov R.M. as the place of residence a search was carried out in the premises of the Muslim religious school "Madrasah" located on the second floor of the mosque of religious organization "Muslim Community 'Miunevver' ". During the search two copies of newspaper "Vozrozhdeniye" (February 2014) of four pages and a black notebook with inscriptions "2012" and "Edveys" were removed.

On 30 January 2015, the Leninsky District Court of Sevastopol decided that the search at domicile of Vaitov R.M. was legitimate.

Law enforcement authorities have received no petitions from the representatives of the "Mejlis of the Crimean Tatar people" or other public organizations, religious denominations or political parties concerning abductions of their activists or other illegal actions against organizations or their members.

No facts were registered concerning intimidation and acts of violence or harassment in relation to ethnic Ukrainians, Crimean Tatars or representatives of other nationalities, including in

connection with the use of the Ukrainian or Crimean Tatar language in public places or of national symbols.

Earlier, during the verification of alleged violations of the rights of the Crimean Tatar population in the city of Sevastopol, law enforcement authorities questioned Mamutdinov Enver Taliatovich, the Chairman of the Sevastopol regional branch of the "Mejlis", occupying this post since 2012. He stated that since March 2014 the Crimean Tatars have not experienced any harassment, including violent, by the law enforcement agencies of the city. There were no bans on the use of the mother tongue, intimidation, acts of violence or harassment, and he has no information of such cases. He also noted the absence of restrictions on civil, political and other rights.

–Under Part 1 of Art. 205.2 of the Criminal Code of the Russian Federation in respect of Yenikejev R.Kh. who in October 2014 posted text, photo and video materials justifying terrorist activities in IT Internet social network "Vkontakte". Preliminary investigation is underway.

In 2015, in the field of countering extremist activity 6 criminal cases were opened, including 2 cases in relation to Ukrainian citizens.

On 29 April 2015, the Investigative Department of Russia's Federal Security Service Directorate for the Republic of Crimea and Sevastopol opened a criminal case under Part 2 of Art. 280.1 of Russia's Criminal Code in relation to Ukrainian citizen Denisova E.V. (public calls for action aimed at violating the territorial integrity of the Russian Federation committed with the use of IT net Internet).

On 23 June 2015, Denisova E.V. applied for terminating the prosecution in relation of her on the basis of para. 7 of Part 1 of the Decree of the State Duma of the Federal Assembly of the Russian Federation No. 6576-6 GD of 24 April 2015 –in accordance with an amnesty act.

On 23 June 2015, the investigator issued a decision to discontinue the criminal prosecution and criminal proceedings against Denisova E.V. on the basis of para. 3 of Part 1 of Art. 27 of the Code of Criminal Procedure – in accordance with an amnesty act and provisions stipulated by Part 4 of Art. 24 of the Code of Criminal Procedure of the Russian Federation.

Decision on the termination of criminal prosecution and criminal proceedings against Denisova E.V is legitimate and justified. There are no grounds for its cancellation.

On 25 June 2015, the Leninsky District Investigative Department of the Investigative Directorate of the Investigative Committee of the Russian Federation for the city of Sevastopol opened a criminal case under Part. 1 of Art. 282 of Russia's Criminal Code against Ukrainian citizen Y.G. Ilchenko who posted in social network "Vkontakte" materials aimed at inciting hatred or enmity, as well as humiliating the dignity of a person or group of persons on the grounds of race, ethnicity, language or origin. This act was committed with the use of IT network Internet. Preliminary investigation is underway.

The Chief Investigative Directorate for the Republic of Crimea of the Investigative Committee of Russia is investigating a criminal case opened in the connection with the infliction on 26 February of bodily harm on Korneeva V.D. and Postnyi I.A. during a rally near the building of the Verkhovna Rada of the Autonomous Republic of Crimea, which caused the death of the victims.

On 29 January 2015, the investigator, acting under Art. 91 and 92 of the Criminal Procedure Code of the Russian Federation, detained Chygoz Akhtem Zeytullaevich, a citizen of Ukraine, Deputy Chairman of the "Mejlis the Crimean Tatar people", responsible for work with the bodies

of national self-governance. On 29 January 2015, pursuant to Art. 171 and 172 of the Criminal Procedure Code of the Russian Federation, a decision was taken to abduct him under Part. 2 of Art.212 of Russia's Criminal Code.

On 29 January 2015, by the decision of the Kiev District Court of Simferopol of the Republic of Crimea, Chygoz A.Z. was remanded into custody as a preventive measure. Subsequently, the court extended the detention of Chygoz A.Z. up to 19 November 2015.

Cantemirov E.E., Emirvaliev E.E., Yunusov T.A., Asanov A.A., Nebiev E.B.and Deggermendzhy M.B. were indicted as defendants and remanded into custody alongside Chygoz A.Z. Subsequently, in relation to Kantemirova EE, Emiraliev E.E, Yunusov T.A. and Nebiev E.B. his measure was replaced by preventive measures in the form of the guaranty of defendants' appearance with criminal responsibility for non-appearance.

On 17 April 2015, Kiev District Court of Simferopol of the Republic of Crimea remanded AsanovA.A. into custody; subsequently, this preventive measure was extended until 15 October2 015.

In accordance with Art. 215 of the Code of Criminal Procedure of the Russian Federation, on 1 September 2015 the investigator notified the accused of the end of the preliminary investigation of the criminal case.

Due to the fact that the Prosecutor's Office of the Republic of Crimea and accused Nebiev E.B. concluded a pre-trial agreement, on 1 July 2015 in respect of this accused a separate criminal case was opened according to the components of crime under Part. 2 of Art. 212 of the Criminal Code of the Russian Federation. On 24 August 2015, an approved indictment and a recommendation on the special order of the court hearing and adjudication of the criminal case were sent to the Centralnyi District Court of Simferopol in the Republic of Crimea for consideration on the merits.

Prosecutor General's Office
of the Russian Federation