

Monitoring Report

**on Persecution of Activists, Human Rights
Defenders and Journalists in Ukraine**

(July-September 2020)

Асоціація
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The Report covers the cases of persecution of activists, human rights defenders and journalists, as well as the situation regarding the investigation of such cases by law enforcement bodies for the period covering July to September 2020.

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Association UMDPL, 2020

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INTRODUCTION

The trend to put pressure on public activists, human rights activists and journalists persists in Ukraine. The previous year, in just six months from April to October, our team recorded [61 cases](#) of persecution of activists, with the largest number of cases reported in Odesa and Kyiv. This year, the trend continues to be disappointing. In June-September 2020, we recorded 21 cases (with a total of 27 individual incidents) in which activists were obstructed or intimidated. We recorded the largest number of cases in Kyiv, then in Odesa, and also some cases in Lviv, Kharkiv, Kharkiv region and Zaporizhzhia region.

ABSTRACT

The majority of the cases neither involved pressure on the part of law enforcement bodies, nor was committed by officials. The incidents primarily took the form of property damage (9 cases), threats (5), physical assaults (4), Internet-bullying (3) and defamation campaigns (2), with some of the incidents featuring several of these characteristics simultaneously. It is noteworthy that, during this period, there happened 3 car arsons and 1 house arson. In all the cases, not involving the pressure by the police, the victims applied for the legal protection and reported the incidents to the police. The only exception was one case where the victim failed to appeal to the police due to the external circumstances – the lack of corpus delicti or the fact of the offence (the case was the matter of a defamation media campaign in the territory not controlled by Ukraine). It is also revealing that in the vast majority of cases, victims acknowledge their dissatisfaction with the level of effectiveness of investigation and the need to constantly motivate investigators through submissions, inquiries and pressure from the civil society. At least one journalist has filed a complaint with the State Bureau of Investigations of Ukraine (SBI) referring to the ineffective investigation of her case. This takes up a lot of time and effort from the victims-activists and sometimes demotivates them to monitor their own cases or reduces the level of trust in the judiciary and the police. However, in fairness, one should note that several victims expressed satisfaction with the intensity and efficiency of the investigation and court hearings

in their cases (as an example: 2 incidents of attacks on activists in Odesa who oppose construction works). A positive trend in all the recorded cases was an increase in the feeling of well-being among the victims- activists through solidarity and support from representatives of civil society and some local political figures. The vast majority of them noted that, following the incident, their social capital in the civic sector began to increase, and they began to feel that their work did not go unnoticed. It is also interesting that some of the interviewed victims emphasized that after the incident they felt even more motivated to do their socially important work and fight injustice, although the key-note that might describe their feeling still was anxiety, danger, fear of generally low level of protection to social activists.

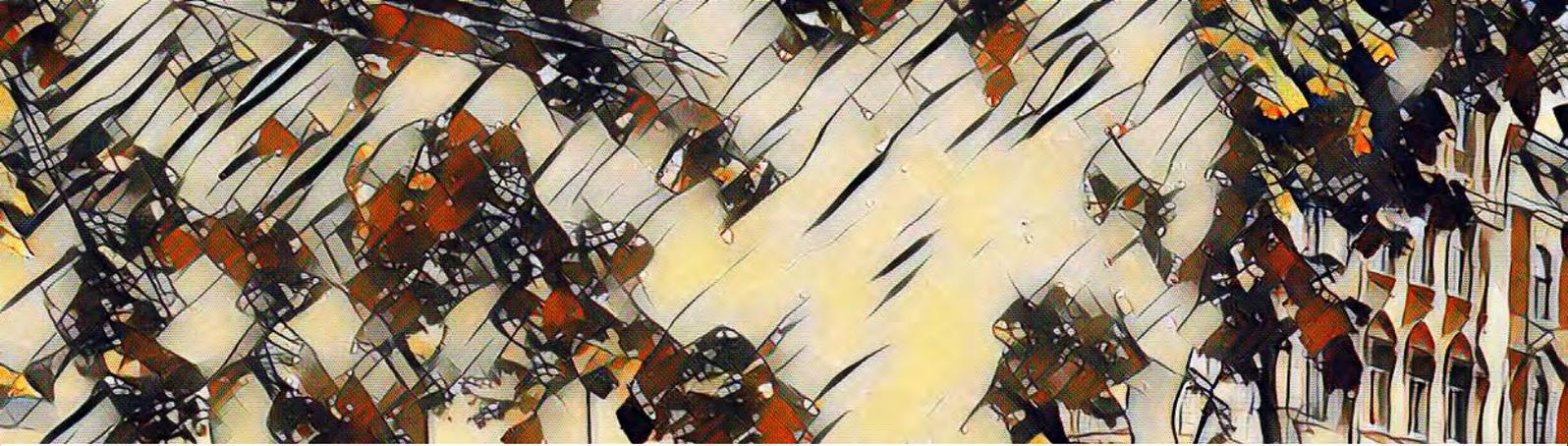
As regards the pressure on civil society by the police and other law enforcement bodies, the most common cases were: the obstruction of peaceful assemblies (3) and the cases of inaction/improper performance by law enforcement bodies, which could endanger the victims (2). These cases were mostly not reported to law enforcement bodies due to a lack of trust in them in this context. Thus, in the two cases where organizers of a peaceful assembly had overtly been unlawfully obstructed by means of physical force to reach the venue, they failed to file the complaints with the police not believing in their effectiveness. Interestingly, both cases concerned expressing a position on the adoption of a draft law (one – promoting the environmental recycling and the other – against the amendments to the law on languages). In both cases, the law enforcers cited as the reason to disallow people to reach the venue the stage props which the participants were carrying to use in their performances (trash bags and large wooden sticks, respectively). It is noteworthy to mention a case in Lviv, where at a peaceful political rally (criticizing the President's statements), administrative cases were illicitly initiated against the participants (with the aim of obstructing the peaceful assembly). Against this background, the activists noted that they felt tired and upset, regretting the financial, time and human resources they had to waste to prove their innocence in court instead of continuing their usual activities in the civic sphere.

The systematic pressure on investigative journalists of the Schemes: Corruption in Details Program is worth specific mentioning. First, Mykhailo Tkach detected signs of a tap at his home, and, a few days later, the car of the

editorial office was set on fire. During this period, the case against Serhii Sternenko continued to unfold – in June he was handed over the indictment of intentional homicide and ‘illegal’ handling of cold arms, was placed under house arrest as a measure of restraint, and his case was transferred to Odesa, where, right before the court hearing, Serhii was assaulted yet another time. After the hearing, the participants who had come to support Sternenko also reported attacks and surveillance. Additionally, in late August, when public organizations working to overcome discrimination and increase the visibility of the LGBTQI community intensified their activities, the attacks and pressure of various kinds on the LGBTQI activists also became more frequent. In particular, there has been an attempt to disrupt a peaceful assembly within the framework of the Odesa Pride 2020, an attempt to disrupt an event at the Odesa community center QueerHome, and 3 incidents related to property damage and threats at the Kharkiv community center PrideHub.

Law enforcement bodies do not take appropriate measures to prevent attacks on activists and start their activities only after the attack has taken place. However, it should be noted that crime reports are being entered into the Unified Register of Pre-Trial Investigations within the timeframe specified in the Criminal Procedure Code of Ukraine, and, with regard to high-profile cases, they are not only registered in a proper way but even being investigated as a matter of urgency.

To sum up, during the specified period and among the public activities, the most dangerous have been various anti-corruption activities (against illegal construction works, exposing local political and business schemes, etc.), LGBTQI activism, criticism of the state apparatus and political activities of various individuals or organizations. The latter is featured by higher likeliness of pressure by the law enforcement bodies.



**Description of incidents related to attacks and persecution
of human rights defenders, activists and journalists
for their actions to protect the public interest in Ukraine
in July-September 2020**



Incident 1. An administrative offence report was drawn up against Rostyslav Radish and Iryna Kleimenova for a performance during a peaceful assembly on 06.07.2020.

On July 6th, at 13:00, at Svobody Avenue near the Shevchenko monument in Lviv, activists held a performance aimed at drawing the attention to the [comments](#) by the incumbent President of Ukraine on the absence of necessity to restrain the exchange rate of hryvnia. As one can see at the [video broadcast](#) by a local media outlet (032.ua), the performance comprised a theatrical action, where a man wearing a mask with the face of Volodymyr Zelensky was printing one million hryvnia notes using a green printer and handing them to passers-by. Then, two other people (a woman with a bat and a man with a hammer) in a staged manner forced the first actor away from the printer and smashed it. The video footage further shows that, after the performance, the participants started to collect the notes scattered on the street and the parts of the printer.

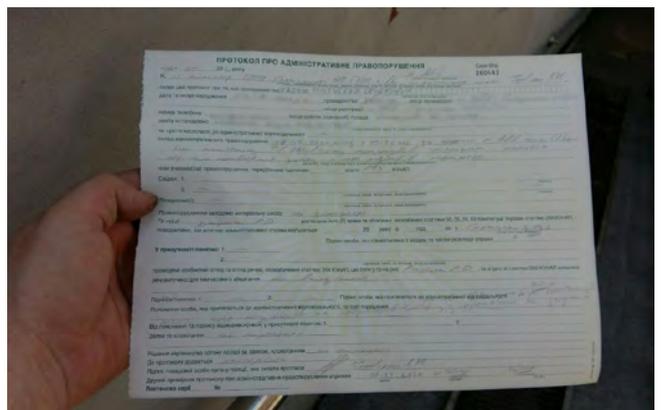


(According to Rostyslav Radish) There were only 4 participants of the performance and about 10 police officers were present nearby. The organizers announced the performance on the very same day (July 6th) in the morning and sent out the press-releases to 92 media representatives.

As a participant of the performance Rostyslav Radish [reported](#) on his Facebook page: after the meeting was over, when the media representatives left and the participants were cleaning up the garbage from the performance, the law enforcers invited them to 'a shade' for a conversation. Two participants followed the



police officer, and the other two remained to clean up the garbage, including Rostyslav. In a few minutes, police officers approached Rostyslav and asked him to 'come over for a minute'. According to him, the law enforcers had already drawn up an administrative offence report against him and his colleague Iryna Kleimenova for petty hooliganism. Rostyslav Radish further noted that the 'chief' policeman had been explaining him the two possible options: he was either charged with a more serious offence – "destruction of public amenities", or with a less severe – "petty hooliganism", thus, compelling him to sign the administrative offence protocol already drawn up by the other police officers. The policemen motivated the offence by the reason of destruction of the printer (actually owned by Rostyslav) during the performance. It is worth noting that the reports were drawn up without witnesses, as it was stated in the documents themselves (in the case of Rostislav, dashes were written in the place of witnesses, and in the case of Iryna – the name of a police officer on the spot). Both Iryna and Rostyslav wrote in the protocols that they were disagreeing with the protocols.



Rostyslav also noted the inappropriate behaviour of the police officers during their communication. In particular, they wrote down the activist's name and the date with mistakes, but their response was that they "didn't give a fig". The policeman, who personally talked to Rostyslav, told him that "he had been instructed to draw up the protocols, he did so and didn't care much about their future". Moreover, the activist notes that law enforcement officers laughed and made fun of them.

As of now, Rostyslav and Iryna are waiting for the trial. As Rostyslav says, he and his colleague, as well as their lawyers, believe that they are most likely to win the case, since objectively there has been no corpus delicti in their actions. But the activist notes that this is a very time-consuming process that takes up a lot of strength and energy for unnecessary worries. He also stresses that the whole situation and some episodes of the communication with the police are very depressing for him.

Incident 2. Activist Volodymyr Savchenko was beaten on July 9th.

In Odesa, at about 16:20 on July 9th, Volodymyr Savchenko, the head of the NGO Spilna Meta ('Common Goal'), left his office and was heading to his car, when he was assaulted. On the very same day, he [reported](#) this on his Facebook page, and, a bit later, Spilna Meta official page published a [video record](#) of the attack, most likely recorded from the street surveillance cameras. According to Volodymyr, the attacker suddenly attacked the activist from behind and knocked him down to the ground, kicked 5-7 more times and disappeared. After the attack, Volodymyr immediately called the police, filed a crime report regarding the attack and had the injuries verified. As a result, the victim suffered a [concussion](#) and bruises.

Volodymyr Savchenko noted that, in his opinion, the reason for the assault was the activities of his NGO Spilna Meta, namely their fight against the corrupt regime of the city council. Recently, the main activities of the organization were fighting against illegal construction works at the seacoast and illegal driveway access gates. The organization has been revealing and stopping the corruption schemes by judicial means and, sometimes, through support for [take-down actions](#). The Spilna Meta

page [stated](#) the same, mentioning, among other things, the recent successful cases of the fight against illegal construction works that could have been the cause of the attack: a court ban on the construction of [residential complex Hraf](#) by the seaside, [residential complex Kalipso](#) and [residential complex La Mer](#).

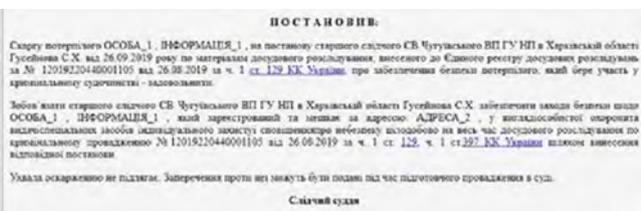
According to Volodymyr, law enforcement bodies responded in a rapid and professional way. Moreover, he was supported by the Member of Parliament Artem Dmytruk, who addressed this issue at the Verkhovna Rada Committee, and submitted a request to the Prosecutor General and the Minister of Internal Affairs to hold a prompt and transparent investigation into the attack. The suspect of the assault was [detained](#) on July 15th, and, on July 16th, the court held a [hearing](#) to choose a measure of restraint for the suspect. While the investigation is underway, Volodymyr hopes that the case would not stop at this point and not only the perpetrator but the contractor as well would be established. So far, the activist wants to wait for the results of the investigation, not mentioning the alleged contractor, although he believes he knows this person.

Volodymyr Savchenko says that he feels well and motivated to continue his work. But he notes that, in Odesa, the situation with the safety of public activists fighting against corruption in the city council is quite bad. Thus, he emphasizes that until the contractors of the attack against him are not identified, he, as well as other civil society representatives in Odesa region, cannot feel safe. That is why, this case and similar other cases of attacks/threats and pressure on activists should be noticeable, especially for the state and international institutions.

Incident 3. On July 10th, human rights defender Roman Lykhachov announced that state protection, provided to him a year ago due to threats, was revoked.

A year ago, [on August 26th](#), 2019, Roman Lykhachov, the head of the Chuhuiv Human Rights Group received a threat in the form of an axe and a coffin near his house with a note "Roman, if you don't stop doing nuisance, the next (axe) will be in your head". The human rights defender immediately addressed the law enforcement bodies, which instituted criminal

proceedings under Part one of Article 129 of the Criminal Code of Ukraine ("Threat to kill"). For the period of pre-trial investigation, Roman had been provided with the state protection, but it was twice suddenly revoked: in [October 2019](#) and in [July 2020](#). In both the first and the [second](#) case, this problem was quickly resolved due to civil society pressure and prompt police response. Nevertheless, Roman's reaction to the removal of state protection makes it clear that he still feels the threat to his life and perceives such actions as designed to enable the carrying out of the last year's threats.



Roman [puts the threats](#) of 2019 down to his activities at the Network of Anti-Corruption Centers, aimed at investigating illegal business schemes that may be related to the circles of Member of Parliament Dmytro Shentsov. [According to Roman](#), right before the threat, the group released another video about the illegal sale of alcoholic beverages, where Roman spoke about the possible involvement of government officials and law enforcement bodies in these affairs.

The mentioned threats have not been the first threats during Roman's years of activity. Before, in [2016](#), the human rights defender faced an attack (because of his anti-corruption activities) and, in [2018](#), threats from a law enforcement official (due to the investigation into the murder of activist Mykola Bychko). All this indicates deep systemic problems in providing protection to human rights defenders. Roman Lykhachov continues to work in this direction with the Network of Anti-Corruption Centers, thus reasserting his high motivation in the civic sector.

Incident 4. Journalist Kateryna Serhatskova faces threats after her article about the possible connection between far-right organizations with the StopFake Internet project.

On July 11th, blogger Roman Skrypin published a series of posts insulting journalist Kateryna Serhatskova and telling her to return to Russia. After the initial post had been blocked due to the presence of hate speech, Roman published another series of posts with Kateryna's [personal photos](#) and [insults](#). As Human Rights Watch [reports](#), the comments to the initial post contained threats of physical assault and violence against the journalist, and later under the same post, unknown persons published the address and photos of Kateryna's apartment. Although the post was quickly deleted, the personal information kept on spreading in the social media and caused numerous threats, cyber-bullying and pressure on Kateryna Serhatskova's journalistic activities. On July 14th, Kateryna [told](#) the Independent that she had been forced to leave Kyiv fearing for the lives and health of her family and herself.

The reason for such an aggressive reaction on the Internet was an [article](#) by Kateryna, published on July 3rd on the website of online media Zaborona reporting of a probable influence of far-right organizations in Ukraine on the StopFake fact-checking Internet project. The article has long been in the spotlight and discussed in the media, since the StopFake's official [statement](#) came out on July 8th, calling the allegations of politicization and links to far-right organizations untrue. On July 9th, Zaborona published its [response](#) to StopFake's statement refuting the content of the article.

Following the incident with Roman Skrypin's post, a number of international and local NGOs issued statements on the inadmissibility of hate speech, threats and persecution of a journalist for the professional activities, namely: Human Rights Watch, [Amnesty International Ukraine](#), [Freedom House](#), [Committee to Protect Journalists](#), [Hromadske TV](#), [Stopfake](#) and a number of other NGOs. On July 20th, the official Facebook page of the National Union of Journalists of Ukraine [stated](#) that the Independent Journalists' Initiative '34' has filed a crime report to the police regarding the bullying of journalist Kateryna Serhatskova by journalist Roman Skrypin.

Incident 5. Proceedings on the third attack on Serhii Sternenko were suspended.

On July 12th, activist Serhii Sternenko [reported](#) on his Facebook page that, according to information provided by the investigating officer, the investigation into the third attack on him, the search for organizers, intermediaries and the contractor of the assassination attempt had been discontinued.

Back in 2018, Sternenko faced three assaults. During the last of them, one of the attackers, Ivan Kuznetsov, was mortally wounded (Serhii claims that he acted in self-defence). Another attacker, Andrii Isaikul, fled Ukraine. Instead, on June 11th, 2020, the Security Service of Ukraine (SSU) handed over to Serhii Sternenko the indictment act of intentional homicide and illegal handling of cold arms. It is worth noting that the Ukrainian Helsinki Human Rights Union (UHHRU) in its open statement [recognizes](#) the persecution of Serhii Sternenko as politically motivated.

According to Serhii, he tried to prevent the suspension of the investigation: "in May, I filed a request to prosecutor Bozovuliak to separate the investigation materials regarding perpetrator Isaikul into an individual proceeding. Thus, it could be closed in a way that prevents the expiry of the investigation, while the main proceeding should be further investigated. Still, the organizers of the crime Podobiedov and Posuvailo have not received their indictments, and the investigators are not even trying to find the contractor and all the other accomplices". But, as the activist further reports, the prosecutor refused this request and, as a result, suspended the main proceeding on the third attack.

Meanwhile, in the same post, Serhii points out the pressure from the investigator in the case where he is the defendant. In one week, he received "5 summonses for each day of the week requiring to come to the SSU at 10:00 to get acquainted with the materials of the proceedings against [Serhii Sternenko]".

It should be noted that Serhii Sternenko used to be the head of the Odesa branch of the Right Sector, which is considered a radical nationalist group, and was allegedly related to the beating of MP Nestor Shufrych and to other 'garbage lustration' campaigns, which cannot be considered legal and held without violence. Currently, Serhii is lawfully engaged in civic activism.

Case: political investigative journalist Liubov Velychko

Incident 6.1 After publishing a study into Telegram-channels, journalist Liubov Velychko faced Internet-bullying, defamation campaigns and threats.

On July 13th, [Liga.net](#), [Texty.org](#) and the [Institute of Mass Information](#) released the text of a journalistic investigation into the content of the political Telegram-channels, of which some members of the Servant of the People Party were subscribers. The author of the article, Liubov Velychko, having analyzed the content of 5 Telegram-channels, assumed that these channels were managed from Russia.

Just in a day, the journalist noticed that such Telegram-channels as Lehitimnyi ('Legitimate') and Resident, and other channels not mentioned in the study, had published a large number of posts trying to refute the results of the analysis and to discredit its author. One of the main narratives of such posts was the idea that Liubov Velychko's article had been 'planted', thus trumped-up, manipulative and untrue. In addition, a famous blogger Olha Sharii published on her channel a [video](#), where she called the author of the study 'presstitute' and went on criticizing her article

for 16 minutes. Liubov Velychko reported all this on her [Facebook](#) page. Moreover, the journalist noted that she began receiving messages and comments on Facebook of an offensive, aggressive or sometimes violent nature from various users of the social network, who were dissatisfied with the article on the Telegram-channels.

Liubov Velychko is not sure whether such cyberbullying is due to someone's centralized instruction, or the result of public calls or individual intentions of 'haters'. However, she believes that the posts in the Telegram-channels were sponsored and designed to undermine the results of her research, to discredit her work and herself as an author. In such an atmosphere, the journalist does not feel intimidated. On the contrary, she regards such stormy reaction as a confirmation

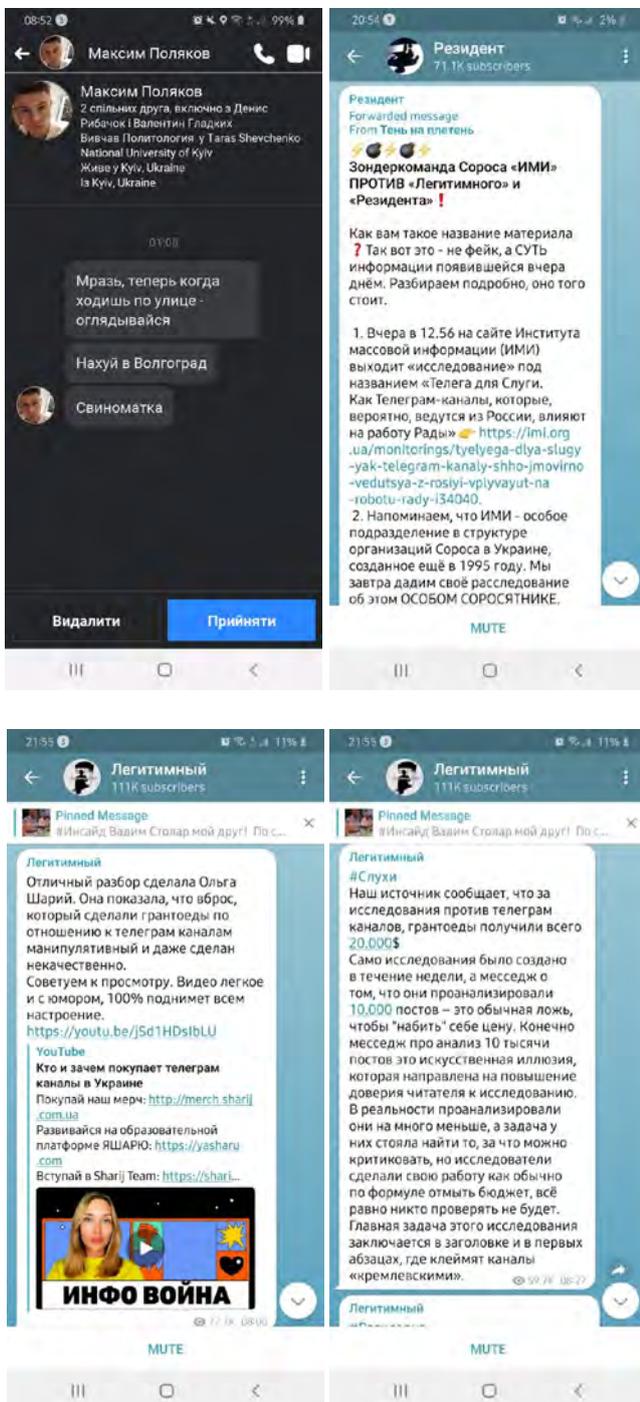
of her words and observes the developments from the viewpoint of a mental continuation of her research. According to her, people who are engaged in investigative journalism should always be ready for danger and threats, thus Liubov does not talk much about her emotional state and says that she is ready to continue to fight for the truth and write new materials, but she would not leave this situation as is. She took much time to prepare a crime report for the law enforcement bodies on the threats. According to her, an active civil society and the support of the editorial office and the professional community also help her to feel more or less protected and motivated. Subsequently, on August 26th, Liubov [filed](#) a complaint with the SBI over the ineffective investigation of her case.

Incident 6.2 Journalist Liubov Velychko reported alleged surveillance.

On August 27th, journalist Liubov Velychko made a [post](#) on her Facebook page, where she reported the alleged surveillance of her on the previous day.

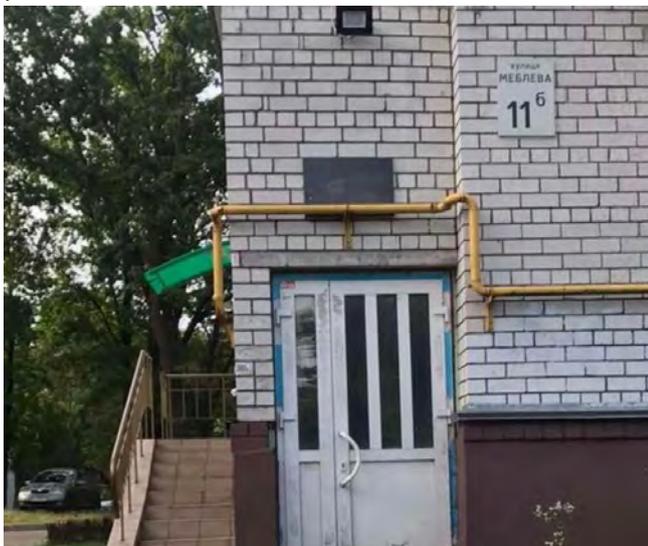
According to her, a stranger in a dark car was following her car, despite the strange routes and manoeuvres that she had intentionally taken. Having arrived at the destination point (the house where Liubov Velychko lives), the car also stopped, and the person from the car started to shine a light on the journalist's car. After a while, the persecutor left.

Liubov Velychko noted that she had checked the car's number plates with the Ministry of Internal Affairs, but she had not found them in the database. In her opinion, this is a direct sign that these have been the number plates of law enforcers involved in an investigation activity. That is why the journalist has sent an inquiry – she wants to know whether she is an object of investigative and operational actions or whether the illegal methods of persecution are being used against her. As the journalist believes, the latter option is related to the [article](#), that she has recently published, interviewing a curator of a special operation to intercept 33 people involved in high-profile terrorist acts.



Incident 7. A ‘memorial plaque’ to Iryna Fedoriv, the editor-in-chief of the CHESNO Movement, installed on the house where she lives.

On July 14th, Iryna Fedoriv found a plaque resembling a memorial plaque near the house where she lives and immediately [reported](#) this on her Facebook page. The plaque contained a photo of Iryna and the inscription, indicating the alleged date when she had bought the apartment, as well as the accusations denying the integrity of her activities as a member of CHESNO (“Honestly”) Movement, the salaries from which had allegedly allowed her to buy the apartment. Almost immediately, the Movement’s official website published a [statement](#) describing the incident as “yet another attempt to intimidate and threaten an activist advocating the extension of boundaries of the national park in Bilychanskyi Forest to save it from the building-up, and advocating for the accession of Kotsiubynske village to Kyiv”. The statement quoted Irina’s speech linking the appearance of the plaque to the ‘Kotsiubynske-Kyiv’ peaceful rally near the Parliament. Iryna says that she has been constantly facing the defamation campaigns on the part of New Faces Party and its leader, Volodymyr Karpluk, caused by her active work in advocating for the accession of the Kotsiubynske village to Kyiv and the struggle for the proper provision of urban amenities in the village. Additionally, both Iryna’s posts and the statement by the CHESNO Movement state that they have filed a complaint to the law enforcement agencies. The statement also notes that, unfortunately, the previous cases of obstruction to Iryna’s activities and pressure on her as an activist have not been effectively investigated since “no one has been punished so far”.



Iryna’s next [post](#), where Iryna describes the details of the incident, writes that this has not been the first time when she, or her friends and colleagues, faced pressure due to the public activities. She also adds that her position will remain the same and she will continue to actively fight for Kotsiubynske’s accession to Kyiv, despite any intimidation.

Incident 8. The organizer and some participants of the rally in support of Draft Law No. 2207-1d (On Waste Management and Waste Sorting) were obstructed by the police on the way to the venue.

On July 15th, at 11:00, the [rally](#) ‘I don’t want to live in a landfill’ was held near the Verkhovna Rada of Ukraine. It was aimed at raising the issue of waste disposal in Ukraine and advocating for the adoption of the Draft Law No. 2207-1d On Waste Management. A group of people, including the organizer of the rally (as mentioned on the Facebook page of the event) Yehor Firsov, decided to come to the rally with trash bags to use them in a performance but faced [obstruction](#) on the part of the law enforcement bodies.

As one of the participants recounts, when the group of protesters with trash bags was approaching the Verkhovna Rada, riot police officers stopped them and told that they could not pass through the police cordon with trash bags. After the participants refused to leave the bags behind the police cordon, they were encircled by policemen. As one can see at the [record](#) of the live broadcast, the riot police encircled the participants of the rally carrying trash bags on the approach to the Verkhovna Rada. One of the officers of dialogue police, also present at the site, tried to explain the

actions of the law enforcement officers by the high probability of escalation of conflict situations at the place of the planned rally “as it just happened here”. The last words of the phrase are difficult to interpret because the open sources do not prove any obvious conflict or violent actions before this incident itself. Probably, the representative of the dialogue police explained the encircling of a part of the rally by the need to separate the participants of different rallies to avoid clashes. It should be noted that such actions can be considered disproportionate, as they do not provide the participants with an opportunity to hold a meeting at the planned place or an adequate alternative way to manifest themselves. The full exercise of the freedom of peaceful assembly implies the holding of a peaceful assembly in the planned place in the absence of objective reasons for its prohibition by a court decision. The organizer of the rally requested the police at least to convoy the participants in a circle of riot police officers to the Verkhovna Rada, however, as the video record proves, this request was ignored.

Thereafter, one of the participants of the rally, Oleksii Novikov, broke through the police cordon and the law enforcement officers were trying to stop him, as one can see on the [video](#) published on Oleksii’s Facebook page. For several minutes, Oleksii Novikov had been trying to reach the square near the Verkhovna Rada, where the rally was taking place, carrying a trash bag in his hands, while police officers had been preventing him in various ways. For instance, they were grasping him by the hands, pulling him by the jacket, standing in his way and, finally, torn the trash bag. Eventually, he reached to place of the rally. When asked by reporters whether he had the intention to file a report of the crime with the police, he answered that he did not see a point in this, as he had already had the experience of ineffective investigation of an attack against him.

The already mentioned video broadcast shows that after Oleksii, several other participants of the rally tried to break through the police cordon. Some of them managed to pass through the circle of police officers, but the others also faced resistance – the police officers thickened the ranks. Such actions of law enforcers caused clashes of the protesters, trying to reach to the place of the rally, with the police. Some participants had their trash bags torn, and two of them noted that their shirts had been torn by law enforcement officers during the clashes. One of the participants [noted](#) that the rally was held anyway, a bit later, but almost without any the stage props.

Incident 9. The car of Askad Ashurbekov, a sociologist and public and political activist, was set on fire.

On the night of July 15th, in the city of Tokmak, Zaporizhzhia region, the car of Askad Ashurbekov was set on fire. He [reported](#) this on his Facebook page. Askad learned this immediately from the car alarm system and called the fire brigade and the police. According to him, firefighters and the police came to the scene in 7 minutes. Officers of the law enforcement bodies took his testimony on the spot and guarded on the crime scene till about 14-15:00 of the next day until the experts of the State Emergency Service of Ukraine (SES) arrived and took the car to the Zaporizhzhia Research Forensic Center. The next day, as Askad [reported](#) on his Facebook page, the criminal proceedings were instituted under the article Criminal Code “Setting fire”. Additionally, MP Yuliia Yatsyk supported the case and stressed the need to investigate the case at the Verkhovna Rada with the Prosecutor General.



Askad Ashurbekov notes that he cannot be completely sure of the motives of the perpetrators, but notes that he had no domestic conflicts. In theory, he links the arson to his planned appointment as head of the Tokmak District State Administration, [which did not happen](#), adding that the existing political establishment of the city of Tokmak could consider him as the frontrunner of the opposition on the eve of the local elections (recently, there have been some media reports mentioning Askad as a mayoral candidate). Another version explaining the motivation for the arson is Askad’s [involvement](#) in the public movement to designate Tokmak as the center of the district. The public and political activist emphasizes that he eagerly awaits for the results of the investigation, as being unaware of the cause of the arson makes him feel anxious, but for the time being, he tries to abstract his mind from the incident and to continue his activities at the city level in Tokmak.

Incident 10. Law enforcers stood in the way of organizers of a rally against the Draft Law No. 2362 (On Certain Amendments to the Law “On the Ukrainian Language as the Official Language”).

On July 17th, at 9:30, the [rally](#) ‘Hands off the language! Day two. Bonfire’ was held near the Verkhovna Rada of Ukraine to safeguard the use of the Ukrainian language in the educational process and to advocate the rejection of Draft Law No. 2362, which postpones the mandatory transition of schools to the Ukrainian language until 2023.

Having arrived at the announced place – near the Verkhovna Rada, the organizers were taking out of their car the props for the action – long wooden sticks (for the firewood). As one can see from the [record](#) of live broadcast, law enforcement officers immediately began preventing the use of firewood, not allowing even to take the props from the car. One can hear the conversation between the organizer and a policeman, where the policeman justifies such restrictions by the danger from the props. The heated discussion lasted for a few minutes, but the police still did not allow to bring the props to the place of the peaceful assembly, so the organizers decided to take a detour. Almost immediately, near the Arsenalna metro station, the car was stopped by police. Then, [according](#) to one of the organizers, the police claimed that the vehicle had signs of a car accident and may not leave the scene. Several law enforcement officers encircled the car in a loose cordon and, after about 20 minutes, let the car to pass on. However, at the entrance to the Verkhovna Rada, another group of police officers [stood in the way](#) of the



car. Thus, the organizers and participants of the rally decided to cross the police cordon carrying props in their hands. Approaching the Verkhovna Rada, the participants got involved in yet another [conflict](#) with the law enforcers, which took the form of a clash and a scuffle. The police applied batons and tear gas. Eventually, the participants managed to bring the props to the venue of the peaceful assembly.

Incident 11. The head of a charity fund reported pressure with regard to the construction of a center for cancer-stricken children.

On July 21st, Natalia Onipko [reported](#) that a neighbour of a center for cancer-stricken to be constructed yet again tried to obstruct the construction. For instance, he cut with an angle grinder the lock on the gate and, thus, scared the guard of the construction site.

In 2018, the Charitable Foundation Zaporuka (‘Cornerstone’) began the construction of a new center for cancer-stricken children, called Dacha (‘Country cottage’), which would accommodate up to 15 families at a time.

Incident 12. Car of activist Slava Masonskyi was set on fire.

In the morning of July 22nd, Slava [reported](#) on his Facebook page that his car had been set on fire. As he noted in the post, lately, he had had a conflict only with Andrii Karpiuk, the owner of STYLUS.ua store.



Back in April, Slava [stated](#) that the store had sold him a defective product and denied its return. Later, he also found evidence [that](#) the goods sold at STYLUS.ua store were unofficial and not new, and not even provided with fiscal receipts. Further,

Slava Masonskyi filed a [crime report](#) with the law enforcement bodies to expose the actions of the store, selling unofficial and used goods as new and official ones. On June 9th, on his Facebook page, he [reported](#) that Andrii Karpiuk had filed a lawsuit against him, which Slava perceived as pressure by legal means. But the activist is not going to ‘concede’ and withdraw the lawsuit, on the contrary, on June 10th, he established a Facebook [group](#) STOP STYLUS.ua and noted that he was preparing a collective lawsuit, after having received letters from other deceived customers. In his group, he also [writes](#) that one of his main demands is to bring Andrii Karpiuk to criminal responsibility and to shut down STYLUS.ua store.

[According](#) to Slava Masonskyi, the proceedings on the arson case have been initially instituted because the surveillance camera captured two unknown persons throwing something in the direction of the car, and thereafter it broke into flame. But recently, on July 28th, Slava [stated](#) that the criminal proceedings had been suspended and blamed the law enforcement officers who might be involved in the crimes against which Slava advocated. As Slava told us, he concluded that the case had been suspended due to the lack of any communication on the part of the investigation. In particular, he was not informed whether an investigator had been appointed in his case, how he could receive an abstract from the Unified Register of Pre-Trial Investigations and had not been given any response to his messages for several days.

In abstracto, Slava Masonskyi was born and used to live in Sevastopol, but, in 2014, he actively advocated for Ukraine and had to leave the Crimea and move to Kyiv. He notes that, back then, it was the period when for his activism he feared persecution and was expecting that his car would be put on the fire, just like it happened with two his friends, so he hid the car. After moving to the capital city, he worked as an assistant to an MP, but he was disappointed with the effectiveness of work at a state body. Therefore, later, he got engaged in grassroots activism: he defended the rights of the Crimeans and migrants, wrote about corruption in Kyiv in the field of housing and utilities, and about the corruption of certain police officers.

Incident 13. The house of anti-corruption activist Vitaliy Shabunin was set on fire.

On the night of July 23rd, Vitaliy Shabunin [reported](#) the arson of his house, where his parents were present at that time. Fortunately, no one was hurt. He also noted that “just two weeks before, the gas service checked the meter and all connections” and found no problems. He links this incident with his public activities and adds that now he feels even more motivated to work in the anti-corruption sphere.

Vitaliy Shabunin is the Head of the Board of the NGO Anti-Corruption Action Center aimed at the promotion of anti-corruption legislation and anti-corruption bodies in Ukraine – the National Anti-Corruption Bureau (NABU), the Specialized Anti-Corruption Prosecutor’s Office (SAPO), the Asset Recovery and Management Agency (ARMA), and the High Anti-Corruption Court (HACC).



This is not the first time that Vitaliy reports pressure related to his public activities. The joint [statement](#) by human rights organizations regarding the persecution of anti-corruption activist Vitaliy Shabunin reads as follows:

“Vitaliy Shabunin and other representatives of the Anti-Corruption Action Center have been subjected to systematic harassment in recent years, including physical assault, fabricated criminal cases, and smear campaigns. On March 22nd, 2016, the Pecherskyi District Court of Kyiv City [granted](#) investigators of the Prosecutor General’s Office (PGO) the right to seize the possessions and documents of the Anti-Corruption Action Center, including information subject to bank secrecy. PGO investigators allegedly investigated the embezzlement of funds allocated by the US government and European partners to reform the Prosecutor’s Office. In September 2016, Vitaliy Shabunin [reported](#) being a target of illegal

surveillance and publication of photos of his unfinished house on the Internet as well as the publication of the data on financial transactions on the account of Anti-Corruption Action Center. The activist appealed to law enforcement officers with a statement about illegal surveillance and leak of information but received no adequate response. On April 9th, 2017, picketing took place near Vitaliy Shabunin's house, the purpose of which was to put pressure the activist and discredit him. The Security Service of Ukraine (SSU) [was involved](#) in organizing the picketing. On May 11th, 2017, Oleksandra Ustinova, an employee of the Anti-Corruption Action Center, [stated](#) that she underwent surveillance by people who were making a film about her at the request of the SSU to discredit her. On June 7th, 2017, Vitaliy Shabunin was [summoned](#) to the military registration and enlistment office, although since 2000 the activist has been disqualified for military service due to his health condition. He was [attacked](#) with a gas canister near the military registration and enlistment office. On June 9th, 2017, the Investigative Department of the Fiscal Service in Kyiv instituted criminal proceedings against the leaders of the Anti-Corruption Action Center for alleged tax evasion by the organization, at the request of MP Pavlo Pynzenyk.

Another criminal case was opened against Vitaliy Shabunin himself as a result of an incident on June 8th near the military registration and enlistment office, after which the activist [was suspected](#) of "inflicting bodily harm on journalist Filimonenko while the journalist was performing his lawful professional activities". Later, the Boryspil District Prosecutor's Office [opened criminal proceedings](#) against Oleksandra Ustinova, a board member of the Anti-Corruption Action Center, on charges of obstructing journalist activities.

On July 17th, 2018, Vitaliy Shabunin was attacked near the building of the Specialized Anti-Corruption Prosecutor's Office in Kyiv. The participants of the counter-action, a group of young people in camouflage uniforms, poured [green iodine](#) and threw cakes at Vitaliy Shabunin, who organized the rally of anti-corruption activists.

Even with these attacks and ongoing criminal cases, some media outlets that systematically disregard journalism standards and social networks have been running a dirty smear campaign against the Anti-Corruption Action Center and Vitaliy Shabunin in recent years to undermine the credibility of anti-corruption activists".

Incident 14. The car with activist Demian Hanul was subject to gunfire.

On July 28th, Demian Hanul [reported](#) on his Facebook page that he had faced an assassination attempt. In particular, the car, where he and other activists were travelling, was subject to gunfire.

They travelled from Odesa to the city of Yuzhne to verify the legality of activities of a boat rental point, which probably did not have an official permit. Demian [notes](#) that they were invited by the local authorities, since, previously, a person had died in the seaside town of Zatoka due to illegal boat rental points. Additionally, they had the mayor's order to take down that rental point. The police and the local service of architects were also expected to be present. But the takedown did not take place, so the activists went back. On the way back to Odesa, the incident actually happened.

According to the official [comment](#) of the national police, criminal proceedings were instituted under Article "Hooliganism" and the police initiated an interception operation to detain the attackers. On July 29th, Demian [reported](#) on his Facebook page that a court hearing to choose a measure of restraint for the suspect in the attack, Viktor Salii, had been scheduled for July 30th. On July 30th, he [noted](#) that the suspect would remain in custody for two months without bail.

Incident 15. Mykhailo Tkach, a journalist with Schemes: Corruption in Details Program, detected signs of a tap at his home.

On August 8th, Mykhailo Tkach, a journalist with Schemes: Corruption in Details Program, detected signs of a tap at his home.

Mykhailo [noted](#) on his Facebook page: "For several weeks, I have received several warnings that my journalistic activities irritated high-ranking officials and that they started gunning for me. One source informed that they were planning to 'drill'. Today, I understood what it meant".

Mykhailo's colleague Natalia Sedletska [noted](#) that the 'hole' was at least 60 cm long. Mykhailo lives on the top floor and above his apartment, there is a shared roof space, accessible from various entrances.

The journalist also stressed that the law enforcement officers who had arrived upon the

call conducted an external inspection of the premises, went up to the attic, took the samples of the construction materials, accepted the crime report and left. Although the journalists requested the police to ensure the protection of the premises (the attic), which one could easily access and destroy the material evidence, the police denied this. Instead, the journalists were told to address the district police station in order to find out whether the criminal proceedings were instituted, whether an investigator was appointed, and so on. Having carried out a general inspection of the premises, the police 'sealed off' (with a duct tape and paper notes 'sealed off') the entrances to the attic from different sections of the house and left the scene.



Eventually, the police have instituted criminal proceedings under the Criminal Code Article "Violation of personal privacy".



Later, on August 11th, Mr.Tkach's lawyer, Anatolii Popov, filed a complaint against the inaction of the National Police of Ukraine investigators with the Kyiv City Prosecutor's Office No. 10.

"For four days since August 8th, when Mykhailo Tkach found signs of a tapping device – a hole in the ceiling of his apartment – the appointed investigators have not taken measures to inspect the apartment with special equipment to detect such devices. This continues, even though the journalist of the Schemes Program has repeatedly brought to the attention of the investigator the

need for such an inspection," lawyer Popov [noted](#) in a comment to Radio Liberty.

According to the lawyer, senior lieutenant of the police Serhii Khomoretzkyi, the head of the investigation section of police station No. 2 of Shevchenkivskyi District Police Department in the city of Kyiv, investigating the case, promised that such special inspection would be held on the evening of August 8th. Subsequently, the inspection was postponed for the next day, but on August 9th, the investigator in the case stated that the Ministry of Internal Affairs did not possess the necessary equipment, thus "the issue of involving the Security Service of Ukraine was underway."

On August 10th, the investigator discontinued the communication, as Mykhailo Tkach's lawyer reports.

The police stated that they had inspected the scene and questioned the applicant, and that, during the inspection of the apartment, they had found certain damage to the ceiling.

Initially, the law enforcers also stated that, following an inspection at the apartment and the attic, "no technical devices were found there". Subsequently, the National Police announced that they planned to hold another inspection and a forensic examination "to find out if any listening device had been installed there".

Incident 16. The car of journalists with Schemes: Corruption in Details Program was set on fire.

On the night of August 17th, unknown persons set on fire the car of Schemes: Corruption in Details investigative journalism program.

"Last night, I got on a plane and when I landed, I learned that the car that we had been using to film our materials for four years has burnt near the house of our film crew member, driver Borys Mazur. We used this car when we were covering such topics as: Mr.Surkis's birthday, and the move of President Zelensky to a state mansion, and the 'Ze-cortege', and the [President's] visit to Oman. I used to spend in this car more time than at the editorial office or at home. The colleagues were kidding that I didn't need a chair in the editorial office – my chair was in that car. The last report that we had been working on with an important member of the film crew – driver Borys Mazur on the Kia Cerato, was 'Kings of the Road', which has already been watched by almost 700,000 viewers on YouTube. During the filming of this piece and

in the report itself, I had repeatedly stressed that our car and we personally were under surveillance by the President's guards from the Administration of State Guard of Ukraine," Mykhailo Tkach, a journalist with the Schemes Program, wrote on his Facebook page.

Incident 17. Activist and co-founder of VostokSOS Fund reported bullying and defamation in the media of so-called Luhansk People's Republic.

On August 25th, activist Oleksandra Dvoretzka [reported](#) on her Facebook page that media from the so-called LPR had intensified the smear campaigns and insults against her. She noted that many times she had seen media materials from the occupied territories and the Russian Federation, where she was portrayed as a 'propagandist' and her activities were portrayed as that of so-called 'sorosiata' ('acolytes of Soros') or 'grant-eaters'.

According to her, such defamation campaigns do not present any personal danger or significant obstacles to her activities, but such narratives as 'grant-eating' and 'sorosiata' can be harmful to any socially important activity of the Ukrainian civil society. They can devalue the work of hundreds of initiatives and NGOs and create a platform that would neutralize such institute as public control and productive criticism from the civil society sector substituting it with political leaders and their decisions.

Incident 18. Trial on Sternenko's case.

On August 31st, near the Prymorskyi District Court of Odesa, at approximately 12:50, two strangers tried to splash Serhii Sternenko with an unknown liquid from a black bottle. Immediately after the attempted crime failed, the two fled in an unknown direction. They were not detained. This was [reported](#) by Miller Law Firm.

There also was a third person present at the crime scene, filming the incident and not trying to flee. This person was detained and taken to the police station to give explanations of the incident.

The identities of the attackers have been established. Their names are Danylo Baida and Vitalii Chumakov, and Artem Trenin was filming their attempt to commit the crime. The latter is also being tried for attacking journalist Roman Varshanidze. His past actions were qualified under Part 2 of the Criminal Code Article 345-1 ("Willful infliction of minor or medium grave bodily injury on a journalist, his close relatives or family members in connection with the lawful professional activity by a journalist"). The case is being heard at the Ovidopolskyi District Court of Odesa region.

This time, Serhii's lawyers filed a crime report

upon the fact of a completed attempt to commit a criminal offence under Part 2 of the Criminal Code Article 296 ("Hooliganism, that is a serious disturbance of the public order based on motives of explicit disrespect to the community in a most outrageous or exceptionally cynical manner, committed by a group of persons").

Several people supporting Serhii Sternenko stated that they had been persecuted by unknown persons after the court hearing. The media outlet ZMINA [reports](#) that, in Odesa, two unknown persons attacked activist Oleksandr Romaniuk, who had come to court in Sternenko's case, as he was walking after the court hearing to the train station to return home. "I was talking on the phone and heard someone running behind me. I didn't even have the time to turn around, when I was hit in the back, and one of the attackers said something like: "So, you like to attend Sternenko's trial?".

Case: Attacks and pressure on LGBTQI activists in Kharkiv

Incident 19.1 Telegram-channel of organization Traditions and Order published a post which can be interpreted as threats.



On August 2nd, the Telegram-channel and the Instagram page of the organization Traditions and Order published a [post](#) under the heading “A new LGBT Pride announced in Kharkiv. It won’t end up peacefully, will it?”.

The text of the post referred to the fact that (according to the representatives of the Organization) the previous year they had been planning a peaceful counter-demonstration in response to the Kharkiv Pride 2019, but the police applied disproportionate force, allegedly due to a prejudice against the ‘anti-LGBT’ position. The post featured a rather non-figurative paragraph as a conclusion that could be interpreted as a call to find alternatives to a peaceful protest, i.e., to possible acts of violence against members of the LGBTQI community in Kharkiv:

“After these events, all decent conservatives cannot help but express such suspicious thoughts: “If a peaceful protest is impossible, if we are not allowed to express our opinion freely, maybe we should try the other ways?”.

Incidents 19.2-19.4 Three consecutive attacks on the community center for the LGBTQI community in Kharkiv.

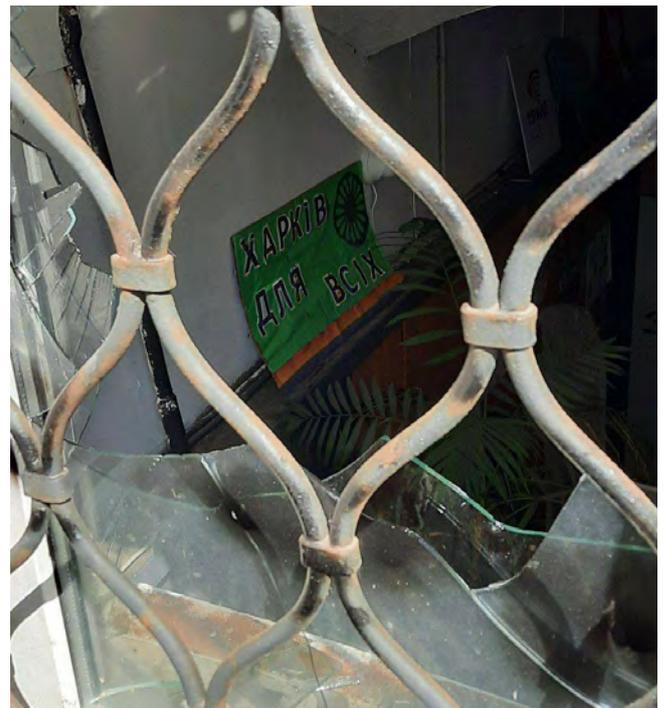
As Anna Sharyhina, a co-organizer of the Kharkiv Pride, stated at a [press briefing](#), in a week, three attacks had been committed against the PrideHub, a community center for the LGBTQI representatives. They all happened at night and had the characteristics of vandalism.

The first attack [took place](#) on September 1st when the unknowns threw eggs at the entrance to the center and wrote ‘Sodom’ on the walls. The second attack happened on September 5th, after the opening of the Kharkiv Pride. Then, the community center was also pelted with eggs and an inscription which can be interpreted as a threat “This is just a beginning” was written on the walls, and the doors were poured over with urine. On September 7th, there was a third attack against the PrideHub – at night the windows of the center were smashed.

The organizers of the Kharkiv Pride put the latter two attacks down to the first days of the Kharkiv Pride and the interventions on the city level related to it, while the first one, on September 1st, according to Anna, might have been related to the events at the Odesa Pride. According to the activists, the main motivation

of the attackers was an attempt to intimidate the active LGBTQI community in Kharkiv and to prevent further events within the framework of the Kharkiv Pride 2020. Additionally, at the press briefing held on September 9th, Anna Sharyhina expressed concern not only about the motives of the hatred for the LGBTQI community but also, in general, the high level of danger for any public activists in Ukraine.

The co-organizer of the Kharkiv Pride noted that the police had promised to increase patrols in the area where the PrideHub is situated. At the same time, the press briefing also raised the issue of police and investigation efficiency. The speaker noted that the experience had not been unblemished, as cases had mostly been closed for lack of corpus delicti. As of now, it is unknown what were the specific Criminal Code articles that the criminal proceedings referred to and whether there has been progress in their investigation.



Case: Attacks and pressure against LGBTQI activists

Incident 20.1 Attacks on participants of peaceful assembly in the wake of Pride Week in Odesa.

On August 30th, a peaceful assembly was held to support the visibility of the LGBTQI community in Odesa in the form of a chain of solidarity. In fact, the participants were prevented to hold a peaceful assembly in the chosen [place](#) and the desired format due to the presence of a counter-rally threatening to the participants. The latter consisted of members of the organization Traditions and Order, and other [representatives](#) of the religious community in Odesa, as well as of other military and patriotic groups.



According to the [Report](#) by the OZON public monitoring group and the [broadcast](#) by a representative of Informer.od.ua, the participants were attacked right from the start of the rally. Since there had not been enough of law enforcement officers nearby, the servicemen managed to stop the attack only in 30 seconds after it started. After the police had separated the demonstrators and the counter-demonstrators, the opponents of the LGBTQI rally had been [repeatedly](#) throwing eggs at the Pride and the police cordon, and several times used tear gas, thus, some police officers needed medical treatment at site.

[According to the chairperson](#) of the organizing committee of the Odesa Pride 2020 Hanna Leonova, a total of 16 people were injured during the attack: most of them had minor injuries, 4 people had first-degree skin burns, and 2 people

got moderate injuries from beatings with sticks and stones on the head. Participants of the Odesa Pride 2020 have filed a total of 7 crime reports to the police. According to Hanna, the number of the reports is small, because not all victims are ready to leave their personal data for fear of the information leak to opponents and due to distrust in the effectiveness of the police.



It should be added that on the eve of the peaceful assembly as a part of the conclusion of the Pride Week in Odesa, there was an [assault](#) on teenagers, that might be [associated](#) with the beginning of the Pride Week. Although the incident itself has not been an attack on activists, it shows aggression against activism related to the visibility of the LGBTQI community and targeting of not only activists but also people who may be associated as belonging to this community.

Incident 20.2 The doors of QueerHome community center for the LGBTQI community were pasted with stickers promoting traditional values and aimed against the community.

On September 12th, outside of business hours, several people entered the private territory and pasted the doors of the community center for the LGBTQI community in Odesa with propaganda stickers of the organization Traditions and Order. The organization Gay Alliance Ukraine [reported](#) this on its Instagram page. The activists filed a report with the police and reported this act as property damage.

Quoting the organization: “NGO Gay Alliance Ukraine links the vandalism and damage to the facade of the building to its human rights activities and demands that the National Police of Ukraine took appropriate precautionary measures”.

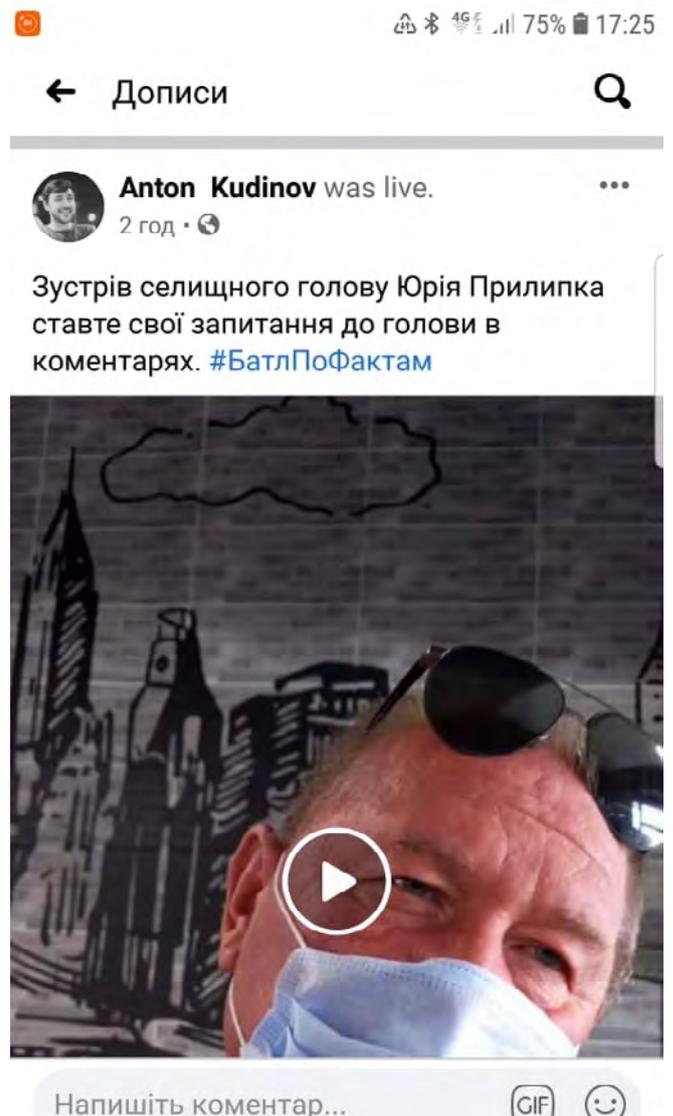
Incident 20.3 The events at the QueerHome community center for LGBTQI in Odesa were obstructed.

An LGBTQI activist Hanna Leonova [wrote](#) on her Facebook page that some hostile teenagers, mostly the representatives of Traditions and Order organization, came to their educational event at QueerHome on September 19th. The youngsters tried to enter the event. Having realized that they would not be let in, they began blocking the entrance and were yelling one after one the xenophobic slogans. In addition, as one can see at the photo, they tampered the lock on the door to the community center and pasted the building with propaganda posters of the organization Traditions and Order again. After the verbal conflict, representatives of the QueerHome called the police, and the opponents of the LGBTQI community unfurled a banner and announced that they were holding a peaceful assembly in front of the entrance to the community center, and, after a while, left the location.



Incident 21. An activist was beaten when streaming an encounter with the town head on the street.

[According to](#) the local social network page in the town of Hostomel and to [activist](#) Anton Kudinov, who lives in this town, on September 8th, the activist encountered the incumbent town head Yurii Prylypko on the street and started a Facebook stream, inquiring from the town head about the latter's achievements in the office. Immediately after the stream began, Prylypko's bodyguard started pushing Anton away. Then, several people ran out of a mall, beat the activist, grabbed his phone, deleted the broadcast and several other Facebook posts and released him. After a little while, the attackers returned unnoticed the activist's phone back to a store after having deleted all the files that might have confirmed the fact of the attack.



The [piece](#) by the UHHRU cites a detailed description of the events: “Skurativskyi ran out of the supermarket and rushed up hitting me with the fists. At least 70 people were watching this. They (the attackers – ed.) wrenched the phone from my hands and ran to their car. Skurativskyi’s brother started wrestling me. He said he would bury me and tore my T-shirt”. After the incident, on September 11th, Anton’s contact let him know that one of the attackers was a relative of the mayor of Hostomel. Furthermore, he showed some materials that had previously been on the activist’s phone – thus making it clear that the attackers had transferred some activist’s personal data while they were keeping his phone.

Anton notes that he reported the crime to the law enforcement bodies, the investigation is underway, but it moves on very reluctantly and not as effective as it could be. The activist says that such a situation is too exhausting and distracting from the usual activities since progress on the investigation can only be reached when he constantly presses on the police. So far, no one has been charged. Anton says he barely managed to have the witnesses interrogated. This happened only due to the intercession by human rights activists from the UHHRU, his own complaints and the active support of the community representatives and the civil society.





ASSESSMENT OF THE EFFECTIVENESS OF INVESTIGATIONS BY THE LAW ENFORCEMENT BODIES

A swift and effective investigation of past attacks on activists is certainly an important element in preventing future attacks. If a perpetrator sees that his defiant and illegal actions have not been properly recorded and investigated, he would have contempt for law enforcement and the motivation to continue his criminal activities.

In order to study the effectiveness of investigations, it is necessary to focus not only on the investigative actions of the law enforcement bodies aimed at establishing the contractors, perpetrators and the actual circumstances of the attacks on activists but also on how the crime prevention has been exercised with regard to possible future attacks on activists. Whether the procedure for registering a report of a crime is observed, whether the victim is being explained the rights he/she is entitled with, and in what way the public is informed about the progress of the investigation in particularly high-profile cases – these are also the matters of importance.

Investigations into attacks on activists are mostly conducted by the National Police. That is why our initial attention was focused on this body. Given the significant public interest in the investigations into proceedings instituted following the attacks on activists, we used such tool as requests for public information to inquire about the measures taken by the police to prevent the mentioned offences. Additionally, we inquired about the structural unit responsible for the implementation of those preventive measures. We also asked to provide us with the information on when and who had registered the crime reports from the victims in the above cases and when the victims had been interrogated.

Having summarized the results of the responses received from the National Police, we observed several trends.

1. The preventive measures to anticipate attacks on activists are not being taken by the police. Moreover, in the case of threats to Iryna Fedoriv, the editor-in-chief of the CHESNO movement, the police registered the report on August 14th, 2020, but investigators did not see any signs of a criminal offence, so they refused to enter data into the Unified Register of Pre-Trial Investigations (URPTI). Given that Iryna had been threatened even before, the police of the Kyiv region, probably, would not take any actions until an actual attack happens.

2. The procedural deadlines for registration of crime reports in the URPTI are mostly observed.

In the case of arson of the car belonging to Askad Ashurbekov, a public and political activist from Zaporizhzhia, which took place on July 15th, 2020, the criminal proceedings were instituted on the very same day and the investigation of the criminal offence according to Part 2 of Article 194 of the Criminal Code of Ukraine ('Willful destruction or endamage of property (...) by way of setting fire' Intentional property destruction by arson") was launched.

A similar situation is observed in the case of arson of the house owned by anti-corruption activist Vitaliy Shabunin. On July 23rd, 2020, Vitaliy's house was set on fire, and, on the very same day, the investigation department of the Boryspil Police Department of the Headquarters of the National Police of Ukraine in the Kyiv region instituted criminal proceedings according to Part 2 of Article 194 of the Criminal Code of Ukraine ('Willful destruction or endamage of property (...) by way of setting fire'). Currently, the case is being investigated by the office of criminal investigations of the Headquarters of the National Police of Ukraine in the Kyiv region.

With regard to the case of the attack on Volodymyr Savchenko, the head of the NGO Spilna Meta, which took place on July 9th, 2020, on the very same day, the criminal proceedings were instituted on the grounds of the criminal offence according to Part 2 of Article 350 of the Criminal Code of Ukraine ("Threats or violence against an official or a citizen who performs his/her public duty") and the active investigative actions began.

3. High-profile cases are being investigated in a more urgent manner.

Thus, in the case of Volodymyr Savchenko, in our opinion, the crime was classified correctly, the identity of the attacker was quickly established, the necessary investigative actions were fulfilled and, within 11 days, the case was brought to trial at the Prymorskyi District Court of Odesa. According to the information contained in the Unified State Register of Court Decisions, the trial on the merits began on July 31st, 2020. The suspect's measure of restraint was changed to 24-hour house arrest with a ban on leaving the house. The court hearing is underway.



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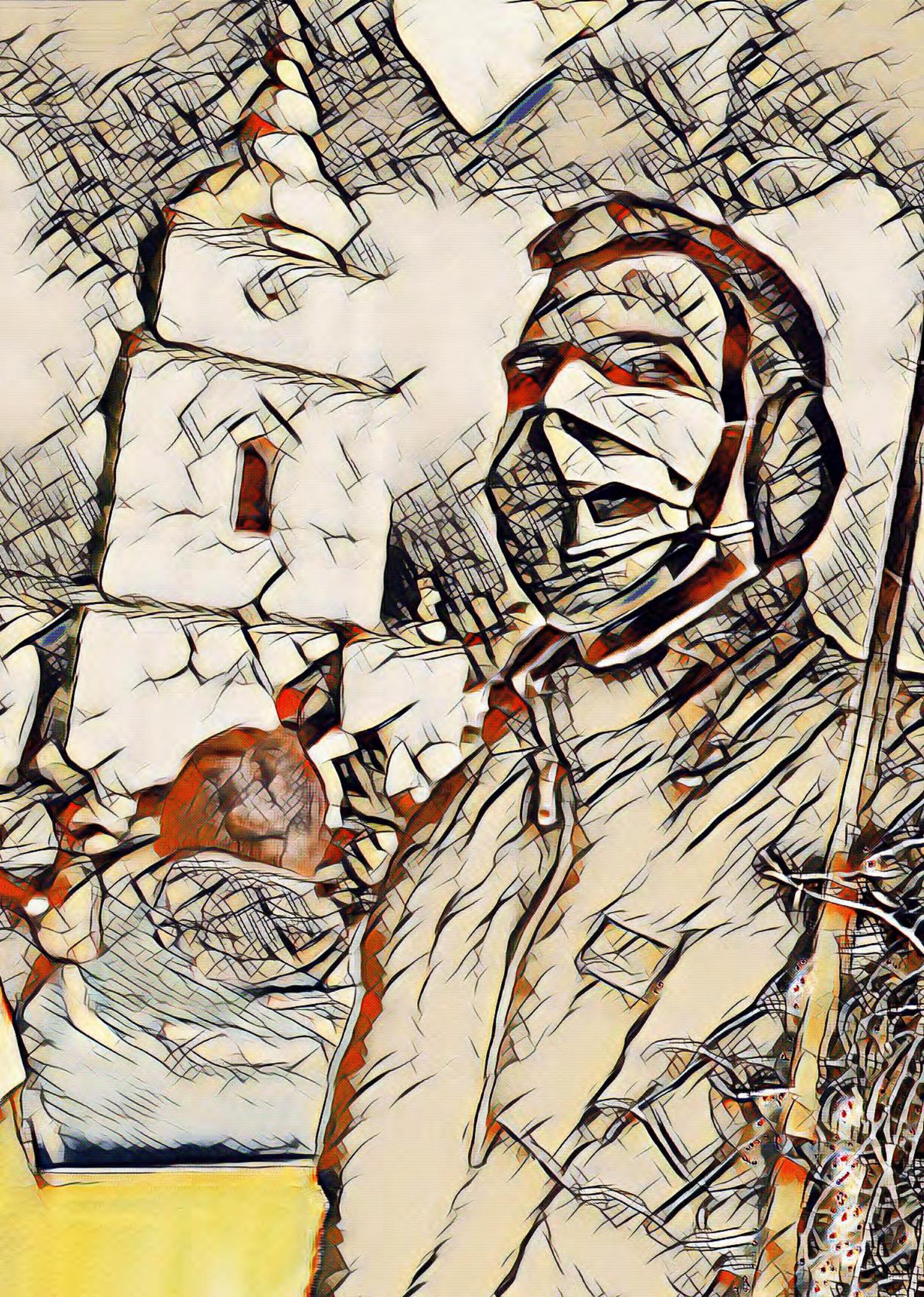
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CONCLUSIONS

Human rights defenders continue to record cases of illegal actions against activists and journalists for their activities in the field of protection of public interests. Such incidents took the form of property damage (9 cases), threats (5), physical assaults (4), bullying on the Internet (3) and defamation campaigns (2), with some of the incidents featuring several of these characteristics simultaneously. For the reporting period, there happened 3 car arsons and 1 house arson. There have been reported the cases of pressure on the civil society by the police and other law enforcement bodies, for example, the obstruction of peaceful assemblies (3). The systematic pressure on investigative journalists of the Schemes: Corruption in Details Program is worth specific mentioning. First, Mykhailo Tkach detected signs of a tap at his home, and, a few days later, the car of the editorial office was set on fire.

Among the public activities, the following areas may be identified as the most dangerous: anti-corruption activities (against illegal construction works, exposing local political and business schemes, etc.), LGBTQI activism, criticism of the state apparatus and political activities of various individuals or organizations.

The issue of attacks on activists is a systemic problem that requires a maximum response from all branches of state authorities, the society and the international community. Above all, it should be addressed by the law enforcement bodies: the Office of the Prosecutor General, the National Police, the Security Service of Ukraine, the State Bureau of Investigation, which, depending on the jurisdiction, are obliged to conduct a full, timely and comprehensive investigation of these cases. Not only the perpetrators but also the contractors of these crimes must be identified and prosecuted.



ANNEX 1.

Methodology for monitoring of attacks on civil society representatives

The direct monitoring of attacks on activists remains crucial to identify new systemic problems and to provide support and publicity to activists affected by attacks.

We monitor the persecution of activists who are subject to pressure by means of legal instruments (criminal or administrative) and are subject to illegal actions.

Conventionally, we classify the pressure into three groups:

- ▶ not related to the use of violence on the part of the public authorities
- ▶ by means of violence by the public authorities
- ▶ mixed (the violence by third parties and further inaction by the law enforcement bodies in the investigation of a case)

Speaking of 'pressure by means of legal instruments' we mean cases where:

- a. *criminal and administrative measures are applied to a person committing lawful actions aimed at the protection of public interests and without connection with any offence;*
- b. *criminal and administrative measures are evidently disproportionate to the offence in which a person has been found guilty or is suspected;*
- c. *criminal and administrative measures are applied to a person on a selective basis, in comparison with other persons;*
- d. *criminal and administrative measures are the result of an evidently unfair impact on activists, which appears to be linked to actions aimed at the protection of public interests.*

Speaking of the 'illegal actions' we mean: cases of beatings, assaults, forcible disappearances, surveillance, threats, intimidation, damage to movable or immovable property, home invasion and other actions to cause physical or psychological harm.

We acknowledge that persecution can be perpetrated by both governmental and non-governmental actors, as well as by unidentified individuals. We take as a basis the [OSCE Guiding Principles](#), thus we define the term "human rights defender" as "any person promoting and striving for the realization of human rights regardless of

profession, age or other status. Human rights defenders carry out their human rights activities individually or jointly, as part of an informal group or as a non-governmental organization (NGO), and act in a voluntary capacity or professionally. Lawyers, trade unionists, staff of national human rights institutions (NHRIs), journalists, medical professionals, public servants and students, among others, can be human rights defenders." Persecution can affect activists as well as their close relatives, family members and acquaintances.

We reserve the right not to include in our monitoring reports the cases of persons, where there are reasonable grounds to believe that these persons have used violence against a person, or it is known from reliable sources that these persons have called for violence on the grounds of race, religion, ethnicity, sexual orientation etc. At the same time, we do not consider the unjustified persecution of such persons to be legal or lawful, and we do not endorse such actions in any way.

We monitor the cases of persecution by means of contacting the victims, collecting and analyzing all the relevant information. We collect primary information regarding the persecution and cross-check the information through the widest possible range of sources, such as testimonies of victims and witnesses of incidents, their lawyers and/or legal representatives, receive information from central and regional authorities, local communities, minorities and vulnerable groups.

Additionally, we [survey](#) each victim to systematize and summarize information on changes in the effectiveness, well-being and motivation of civic sector representatives in connection with persecution.

We also use secondary sources, such as media reports, data collected by third parties, and information from social networks in the collecting, processing and verification of information.

However, we strive to ensure that in most cases our monitoring is based on the initial reports of the immediate victims and (or) witnesses of the incidents, their relatives, lawyers and/or legal representatives. In the event where we have not managed to reach the victims and witnesses of an incident, we rely on information gathered through reliable connections from as

wide range of sources as possible and assess them for credibility and reliability.

We are aware that the list of cases presented in the Monitoring Report is not exhaustive. **We analyze only the most critical cases, that allow us to draw a conclusion on the general situation with the security of human rights defenders in Ukraine.** In addition, the Report lists only those people and incidents for which we have been able to gather and analyze sufficient material for

a reasonable conclusion about the illegal nature of persecution, not related to domestic violence.

In the development of this [methodology](#), we used the methodology of the Human Rights Centre “Memorial” and the [methodology](#) used for drawing up the Reports on the human rights situation in Ukraine by the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights.

ANNEX 2.

Methodology for determining the effectiveness of law enforcement bodies in investigating attacks on activists

Sources of the developed methodology:

The Constitution of Ukraine, namely the provisions of Article 27: “No one shall be arbitrarily deprived of life. Protection of human life shall be the duty of the State.

Everyone shall have the right to protect his life and health, and lives and health of other people against unlawful encroachments”;

Of Article 29: “Every person shall have the right to freedom and personal inviolability. No one shall be arrested or held in custody except under a substantiated court decision and on the grounds and in accordance with the procedure established by law...”

Of Article 34: “Everyone shall be guaranteed the right to freedom of thought and speech, and to free expression of his views and beliefs.

Everyone shall have the right to freely collect, store, use, and disseminate information by oral, written, or other means at his discretion...”

The Criminal Procedure Code of Ukraine, namely the following provisions:

Of Article 11 “Respect for human dignity”;

Of Article 12 “Right to liberty and personal inviolability”;

Of Article 25 “Publicity”;

Of Article 28 “Reasonable time”;

Of other articles related to criminal proceedings.

The **Decisions of the Constitutional Court of Ukraine** as regards the interpretation of the provisions of the Constitution of Ukraine and the Criminal Procedure Code of Ukraine

The Law of Ukraine “On Access to Public Information”, namely the following provisions:

Of Article 1 “Public information”;

Of Article 3 “Guarantees of ensuring the right of access to public information”;

Of Article 4 “Principles of ensuring access to public information”.

Judgments of the European Court of Human Rights in considering the violations of the Convention for the Protection of Human Rights and Fundamental Freedoms, namely:

Of Article 13 “Right to an effective remedy”;

Of Article 2 “Right to life”;

Of Article 3 “Prohibition of torture”.

Subject matter and the principles of the study:

The study of the effectiveness of actions taken by the law enforcement bodies in investigating the attacks on activists is carried out based on the cases that are documented and verified by the team of Project Strengthening the System for Protection of Activists. We determine the effectiveness of the actions taken by the law enforcement bodies by contacting victims, their lawyers and/or representatives, relatives and acquaintances, by submitting inquiries to government bodies, collecting and analyzing all the publicly available information. We also use secondary sources, such as media reports, data collected by third parties, and information from social networks, in the processing and verification of information.

The term ‘law enforcement bodies’ shall be construed as the state institutions entrusted with:

- ▶ *ensuring the prevention of attacks on activists and human rights defenders;*
- ▶ *organizing and conducting investigations into illegal actions against activists and human rights defenders;*
- ▶ *providing adequate protection to victims of offences.*

We are well aware that the list of information collected on the actions of the law enforcement bodies taken in the investigation of attacks on activists and human rights defenders may not be exhaustive. At the same time, upon receipt of additional information, we are ready to review our assessments in order to determine the effectiveness of the actions by the law enforcement bodies as accurately and as impartially as possible with regard to each specific case.

We also strive not only to assess the actions of law enforcement bodies in each verified case but also prefer to summarize and identify trends (both positive and negative) for further communication with government officials.

The scope of the study:

1. Crime prevention.

Whether there had been taken sufficient measures to prevent the crime from being committed. Whether there had been a response to any prior types of pressures and/or threats. How the law enforcement bodies monitor and evaluate such cases.

2. Identification and implementation of measures to prevent recurrence of attacks on activists and human rights defenders.

3. Availability of a clear system of mechanisms and procedures for attacks on activists and human rights defenders to be reported.

- ▶ *inclusiveness of such system;*
- ▶ *time of response to messages;*
- ▶ *the result of messages processing;*
- ▶ *the capability to record a case and conduct an investigation even in the absence of a formal complaint.*

The failure to ensure the availability of such a system can by itself jeopardize a rapid and effective investigation.

4. Adherence to the procedure for registration of criminal offences upon a report by a victim and granting the victim the respective official status.

5. Provision, if necessary, of a victim with a lawyer.

6. Dealing with risks. Prevention of the influence on the part of public authorities and local governments related to possible corrupt connections with businesses operating in a specific territory, relevant to the case and which, accordingly, cause/have caused pressure/attack on activists.

7. Urgency and efficiency of, if necessary, provision of medical services.

8. Examining by the law enforcement bodies of relevant facts concerning the investigation of attacks on activists and human rights defenders.

9. Independence and impartiality of the investigation.

Independence of officers engaged in the investigative activities and of decision-makers from persons involved in the facts under investigation.

10. Completeness and thoroughness of the investigation.

Investigations shall include all the reasonable steps to ensure that evidence relevant to the case is collected.

A typical list of necessary investigative measures and evidence includes:

- ▶ *detailed and exhaustive testimony of the*

complainants-victims, obtained with due diligence;

- ▶ *proper interrogation and, if necessary, identification through a confrontation of a person and other investigative (search) actions aimed at establishing the offenders;*

- ▶ *confidential and thorough medical physical and psychological examination by forensic experts of the complainants-victims. It should be carried out by an independent staff of appropriate qualifications, able to determine the causes of injuries and their relevance to the content of complaints;*

- ▶ *inspection of the crime scene to identify material evidence, including crime instruments, that could have been used for the attack, fingerprints, biological fluids and tissues.*

11. Collection of evidence and conduct of the investigation shall be carried out in accordance with the procedural rules.

Failure to comply with the procedural rules, resulting in further failure of the criminal proceedings, means that not all the reasonable steps have been taken to ensure the collection of evidence.

12. Urgency of investigation.

Investigations and possible legal proceedings must be conducted immediately and within a reasonable timeframe.

Urgency is the key to gaining public trust.

13. Competence of investigators and enabling of the investigation process.

Investigative bodies must be fully competent to establish the facts of a case.

Whether the investigative bodies are able to use the remedies provided by the [Law](#) in order to protect complainants-victims and other persons involved in the investigation from intimidation or other means of forcing them to remove themselves from the investigation.

Investigation systems must be provided with adequate financial and technical resources.

14. Involvement of the victim and public control.

The way in which complainants-victims or their representatives are involved in the investigation procedures. Whether victims are involved in specific investigative actions, when appropriate. Whether they are informed about the progress of the investigation and all the decisions made.

Whether the public is appropriately informed about the progress of the investigation in particularly serious cases.

15. Accounting of criminal offences where activists are victims.

ANNEX 3.

Sample of request for access to public information with regard to the effectiveness of investigations



Асоціація українських моніторів дотримання прав людини в діяльності правоохоронних органів

Association of Ukrainian Human Rights Monitors on Law Enforcement

Юридична адреса: 03062, Україна, м. Київ, проспект Перемоги, 71/2, кв. 31
Адреса для листування: 01001, Україна, м. Київ-1, а/с 496

www.umdpl.info email: umdpl.association@gmail.com

Вих. № 21/08-3
від «21» серпня 2020 р.

Начальнику ГУНП в Одеській області
генералу поліції 3-го рангу
Бехові О. В.

ЗАПИТ

на отримання публічної інформації

09 липня 2020 року у м. Одеса на площі «10 квітня» орієнтовно о 16 годині 20 хвилин було скоєно напад на керівника правозахисної організації «Спільна МЕТА» Володимира Савченка.

З метою формування звіту по нападам на активістів та враховуючи вищевикладене, посилаючись на ст.6. ч.2 Закону України “Про доступ до публічної інформації” (трискладовий тест) та значний суспільний інтерес, прошу надати інформацію:

1. Надайте інформацію, які заходи було вжито, щоб злочин не був вчинений? Який структурний підрозділ відповідав за впровадження цих заходів?
2. Надайте інформацію щодо дати реєстрації заяви потерпілого в реєстрі Єдиного обліку та дати реєстрації заяви в Єдиному реєстрі досудових розслідувань.
3. Надайте інформацію, коли та ким заявнику була надана пам’ятка про процесуальні права потерпілого яка передбачена КПК України?
4. Надайте інформацію чи проводилось освідчення потерпілого? Якщо так, коли та ким воно проводилось?
5. Надайте інформацію чи проводилось первинна судово-медична експертиза? Якщо так, коли та ким вона проводилась?
6. Надайте інформацію коли та ким проводився допит потерпілого, скільки часу він тривав?
7. Надайте інформацію, які заходи було вжито, щоб запобігти повторним нападам на заявників? Який структурний підрозділ відповідав за впровадження цих заходів? Чи відбувалось інформування потерпілого про вжиті заходи?

Відповідь прошу надати у визначений законом термін на електронну адресу: umdpl.association@gmail.com та поштою: м. Київ, вул. Лютеранська, 26/17, оф. 21

З повагою
Виконавчий директор

Вик: Сергій Перникоза
050-739-11-67

В.С. Пивоваров

ANNEX 4.

Responses by law enforcement bodies with regards to the investigations of attacks on activists

**ГОЛОВНЕ УПРАВЛІННЯ
НАЦІОНАЛЬНОЇ ПОЛІЦІЇ
В ОДЕСЬКІЙ ОБЛАСТІ
СЛІДЧЕ УПРАВЛІННЯ**
пр. Шевченко, 8-г, м. Одеса, 65058
тел. 779-43-05, sugunp@od.npu.gov.ua

Виконавчому директору
Асоціації українських моніторів
дотримання прав людини в діяльності
правоохоронних органів
Пивоварову В.С.

31.08.2020 вих. № 4 / П – 91/зі

пр-кт Перемоги, 71/2, кв. 31, м. Одеса, 03062

адреса для листування: м. Київ-1, а/с 496, 0100

Про результати розгляду запиту

У слідчому управлінні ГУНП в Одеській області в межах компетенції розглянуто Ваш запит щодо надання інформації по кримінальному провадженню за фактом нападу на керівника правозахисної організації «Спільна МЕТА» Володимира Савченка, який мав місце 09.07.2020 у м. Одеса на площі 10 квітня, а також з інших питань.

Перевіркою встановлено, що за фактами, викладеними у запиті, слідчим відділенням Шевченківського ВП Приморського ВП в м. Одесі ГУНП в Одеській області здійснювалось досудове розслідування у кримінальному провадженні № 12020166500000052 від 09.07.2020 за обвинуваченням Лукаша О.І. у вчиненні кримінального правопорушення, передбаченого ч. 2 ст. 350 КК України.

Згідно даних ЄРДР, 20.08.2020 досудове розслідування у вказаному кримінальному провадженні завершено та обвинувальний акт разом з реєстром матеріалів досудового розслідування, в порядку ст. 291 КПК України направлено до Приморського районного суду м. Одеси для розгляду по суті.

Станом на теперішній час матеріали кримінального провадження № 12020166500000052 до СВ Шевченківського ВП Приморського ВП в м. Одесі ГУНП в Одеській області не повертались, у зв'язку із чим надати запитувану інформацію не надається можливим.

**Заступник начальника ОМВ СУ
ГУНП в Одеській області**



Сергій САВЧЕНКО

Софія Налчаджи 779 43 72

**НАЦІОНАЛЬНА ПОЛІЦІЯ
УКРАЇНИ
ГОЛОВНЕ УПРАВЛІННЯ
НАЦІОНАЛЬНОЇ ПОЛІЦІЇ
В ЗАПОРІЗЬКІЙ ОБЛАСТІ**

Слідче управління
вул. Матросова, 29, м. Запоріжжя, 69057
тел.239-23-78, su@zr.npu.gov.ua

Виконавчому директорові
Асоціації українських моніторів
дотримання прав людини в діяльності
правоохоронних органів
Вадиму ПИВОВАРОВУ
а/с 496
м. Київ-1, 01001

31.08 2020 № 8698/6/03-0000

Шановний пане Вадиме!

Слідчим управлінням Головного управління Національної поліції в Запорізькій області розглянуто Ваш запит про отримання публічної інформації щодо підпалу авто громадського активіста Аскада Ашурбекова.

Повідомляємо, що повідомлення щодо підпалу авто Аскада Ашурбекова 15.03.2020 зареєстровано в ІТС ІПНП «Єдиний облік» в Токмацькому ВП Пологи́вського ГУНП в Запорізькій області (далі - Токмацьке ВП) за СО № 4448.

Також слідчими СВ Токмацького ВП проводиться досудове розслідування у кримінальному провадженні, зареєстрованому 15.07.2020 в Єдиному реєстрі досудових розслідувань за № 12020080350000539 за ознаками кримінального правопорушення, передбаченого ч. 2 ст. 194 КК України.

Проведення досудового розслідування у вищевказаному кримінальному провадженні доручено слідчому СВ Токмацького ВП Анні Красулі.

На цей час досудове розслідування по кримінальному провадженню триває, слідчим вживаються заходи, направлені на встановлення всіх обставин вчиненого кримінального правопорушення та причетних до нього осіб.

Також повідомляємо, що відповідно до вимог статті 6 Закону України «Про доступ до публічної інформації» від 13 січня 2011 року № 2939- М (далі - Закон), до інформації з обмеженим доступом відноситься таємна інформація.

Статтею 8 Закону передбачено, що таємною інформацією визнається інформація, яка містить таємницю досудового розслідування.

Разом із цим, відповідно до частини 1 статті 222 Кримінального процесуального кодексу України та ст. 387 КК України за більш детальною інформацією про досудове розслідування рекомендуємо звернутися безпосередньо до слідчого або прокурора, які надають дозвіл на розголошення відомостей в тому обсязі, в якому вони визнають можливим.

З огляду на викладене, надати Вам інформацію по кримінальному провадженню не вбачається законних підстав.

З повагою
заступник начальника

Світлана ПЕРЕВЕРЗЄВА 239-23-79
в.к. № 5631

Ігор ШЛЯНІН

**НАЦІОНАЛЬНА ПОЛІЦІЯ
УКРАЇНИ
ГОЛОВНЕ УПРАВЛІННЯ
НАЦІОНАЛЬНОЇ ПОЛІЦІЇ
В КИЇВСЬКІЙ ОБЛАСТІ
СЛІДЧЕ УПРАВЛІННЯ**

вул. Дегтярівська, 15а, м. Київ, 04050

31 серпня 2020 року № 24/16- 57п

В. ПИВОВАРУ

вул. Лютеранська, 26/17, оф. 21,
м. Київ, 01024

Про розгляд запиту

У слідчому управлінні Головного управління Національної поліції (далі - ГУНП) в Київській області в межах компетенції розглянуто Ваш запит щодо надання інформації за зверненням Ірини Федорів, а також з інших питань.

Повідомляємо, що 14.07.2020 відомості викладені у запиті за зверненням Федорів І.П. Ірпінським відділом поліції ГУНП в Київській області внесено до бази інформаційно-телекомунікаційної системи «Інформаційний портал Національної поліції України» за № 19800.

Під час проведення зазначеним підрозділом перевірки не встановлено підстав, передбачених ст. 214 КПК України, які б указували на наявність ознак кримінального правопорушення, тому відомості до Єдиного реєстру досудових розслідувань не вносилися, матеріали розглянуто в порядку Закону України «Про звернення громадян».

Заступника начальника відділу



Марія МАРУЩАК

Фелікс Неміч 590 53 34

**НАЦІОНАЛЬНА ПОЛІЦІЯ
УКРАЇНИ
ГОЛОВНЕ УПРАВЛІННЯ
НАЦІОНАЛЬНОЇ ПОЛІЦІЇ
В КИЇВСЬКІЙ ОБЛАСТІ**

СЛІДЧЕ УПРАВЛІННЯ

вул. Дегтярівська, 15а, м. Київ, 04050

07.09.2020 № 6031 /109/24/36-2020
На №31/08-1 від 31.08.2020

Виконавчому директору
Асоціації українських моніторів
дотримання прав людини в
діяльності правоохоронних органів
Вадиму ПИВОВАРОВУ

Вул. Лютеранська, 26/17, оф.21
м. Київ
01001

Шановний пане Вадиме!

У слідчому управлінні Головного управління Національної поліції України в Київській області в межах компетенції розглянуто Ваше звернення щодо надання інформації у кримінальному провадженні за фактом підпалу будинку громадського активіста Віталія Шабуніна.

За результатами розгляду повідомляємо наступне.

Слідчим управлінням Головного управління Національної поліції України в Київській області здійснюється досудове розслідування у кримінальному провадженні № 12020110100001483 за ознаками кримінального правопорушення (злочину), передбаченого ч.2 ст.194 (умисне знищення майна, вчинене шляхом підпалу) Кримінального кодексу України, розпочатому 23.07.2020 слідчим відділом Бориспільського відділу поліції ГУНП в Київській області за фактом умисного знищення майна Шабуніна Віталія Вікторовича.

На сьогодні в цьому кримінальному провадженні триває досудове розслідування, проводяться слідчі (розшукові) дії направлені на швидке, повне та неупереджене розслідування з метою встановлення осіб, які вчинили дане кримінальне правопорушення.

Відповідно до вимог статті 222 (Недопустимість розголошення відомостей досудового розслідування) Кримінального процесуального кодексу України, відомості досудового розслідування можна розголошувати лише з письмового дозволу слідчого або прокурора і в тому обсязі, в якому вони визнають можливим.

Відповідно до вимог статті 387 (Розголошення даних оперативно-розшукової діяльності, досудового розслідування) Кримінального кодексу України, розголошення без письмового дозволу прокурора, слідчого даних досудового розслідування особою, попередженою в установленому законом порядку про обов'язок не розголошувати такі дані, тягне за собою кримінальну відповідальність, установлену Законом.

З повагою
заступник начальника відділу

Олександр КИРИЧЕНКО

5905342



Асоціація
УМДПЛ
UMDPL
Association

Association of Ukrainian human rights monitors on Law Enforcement (Association UMDPL) – nongovernmental human rights organization implementing systemic all-Ukrainian monitoring of human rights and fundamental freedoms on law enforcement agencies activity.

Activities (programms):

- Countering torture;
- Development of public control;
- Protection of human rights defenders and activists;
- Work with vulnerable groups;
- Law enforcement reform.

Association UMDPL has a long work experience in human rights monitoring, has its own pool of experts, who participate in work of consultative and advisory bodies and interdepartmental expert groups. Experts of the Association participate in development of numerous changes to normative acts regulating work of law enforcement bodies and act as coauthors of draft laws, textbooks, analytical and methodical, scientific publications and etc.

Website: umdpl.info

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