

#LetMyPeopleGo

FREE THE UKRAINIAN HOSTAGES OF THE KREMLIN

THE KREMLIN IS IMPRISONING AT LEAST 44 UKRAINIANS ON POLITICAL MOTIVES. #LETMYPEOPLEGO IS A CAMPAIGN ADVOCATING FOR THE RELEASE OF ALL OF THEM.

The campaign was launched in 2014 by Euromaidan SOS initiative. After Russia occupied Crimea and started a covert war in eastern Ukraine, the Russian authorities unraveled a powerful propaganda campaign against Ukrainian activists and ordinary citizens. To justify Russia's actions, **44 Ukrainian citizens** (and counting) have been imprisoned on trumped-up charges.

Among these fabricated incriminations are accusations of spying, terrorism, extremism, sabotage, participating in the Chechen war 20 years ago or even participating in Ukraine's Euromaidan revolution, etc. Many of them were sentenced to (or are facing) long terms in prison - up to 22.5 years. **THEY ARE...**

PERSECUTED FOR BEING CRIMEAN TATAR & MUSLIM

Crimean Tatars, Crimea's indigenous people, were among the most vocal opposers of the Russian takeover of the Ukrainian peninsula in March 2014. Now, their representative organ, the Mejlis, is banned, **Crimean Tatar leader AKHTEM CHYGOZ** and others are being imprisoned for supporting Ukraine's territorial integrity.



19 CRIMEANS, MOSTLY CRIMEAN TATARS, have been imprisoned on concocted "terrorism" charges based on alleged involvement in **HIZB UT-TAHRIR**, a Muslim organization which is legal in Ukraine and most countries, but groundlessly recognized terrorist in Russia. The lawyers helping the victims of this lawlessness, like **EMIL KURBEDINOV**, have also been persecuted.

PERSECUTED FOR OPPOSING THE ANNEXATION OF CRIMEA

Like film director **OLEG SENTSOV**, who was sentenced to **20 years** in prison for opposing the annexation of his native Crimea, along with **OLEKSANDR KOLCHENKO** and **OLEKSIY CHYRNIY**.



26 February 2014: Crimean Tatars stage huge rally against occupation of their native Crimea

ACCUSED OF "SABOTAGE" AND ATROCITIES TO CREATE A PICTURE FOR RUSSIAN TV

YEVHEN PANOVA was tortured, and his confession of plotting "sabotage attacks" in occupied Crimea was broadcast on TV. Similarly, **SERHIY LYTVYNOV** was falsely accused on Russian TV of killing dozens of Donbas civilians (however rehabilitated later). These stories are broadcast over Russian media, reinforcing negative myths about Ukrainians and generating support for the Kremlin's undeclared war.



JAILED ON TRUMPED-UP CHARGES

#LetMyPeopleGo hostages have been arrested based on the testimonies of "anonymous witnesses," planted "evidence" such as airsoft weapons being passed as real weapons for "sabotage attacks," for participating in rallies taking part in Ukraine, which is outside of Russia's jurisdiction, or participating in the war in Chechnya where they had never been before their arrest.



This airsoft gun for games was broadcast on Russian TV as "proof" that Ukrainians were planning "sabotage" in Crimea

JAILED FOR BEING A JOURNALIST

ROMAN SUSHCHENKO served as the correspondent of the Ukrainian news agency to Paris for six years. He covered the Normandy Group (Ukraine, Russia, France, and Germany) peace talks on Donbas, the scrapped French-Russian deal over the Mistral warship, and the controversy over the Russian Cultural Centre in Paris, supposedly intended to be a Kremlin's soft power or intelligence tool. He was seized during a private visit to Moscow and accused of "spying" on fictitious charges.



ABUSED AND TORTURED

The majority of the Ukrainian prisoners are being held in terrible conditions and sent to Russia's northern regions, denied medical treatment and communication with their relatives. **Many have been severely tortured.**

This abuse has gravely endangered **STANISLAV KLYKH'S** physical and mental health. Apart from torture by electricity, he was "treated" with psychotropic substances to extort "confessions."

OLEKSANDR KOSTENKO, whose arm was broken during detention for alleged actions taken during Euromaidan against a Berkut officer in Kyiv, Ukraine (!), was denied treatment and will probably **need to have the arm amputated.**

Many of the hostages kept in Crimea have chronic diseases, but they have no access to proper medication at all.



And these are only a few examples.

The Kremlin is imprisoning at least 44 Ukrainians on political motives

For Russia, these people are bargaining chips, hostages whom it uses in its own interests. For Ukraine, they are citizens whose rights were brutally violated by the aggressor country, whose lives are in danger, and whose families and children are left behind without fathers.

The #LetMyPeopleGo campaign calls to immediately free the Kremlin's hostages, including Oleg Sentsov.

3 February 2017: 1000 days of Sentsov's imprisonment

Support the Kremlin's hostages, write them a letter! Find out how here:

letmypeoplego.org.ua/en/letter

fb.com/LetMyPeopleGoUkraine.en

twitter.com/LetMyPplGoUA_en

THEY NEED YOUR SUPPORT!



LET MY PEOPLE GO!



RUSSIA, LET UKRAINIAN HOSTAGES GO!



#LetMyPeopleGo

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