

**Постійне
представництво
України при ЮНЕСКО**



**Délégation permanente de
l'Ukraine auprès de
l'UNESCO**

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Paris, 15 June 2015

Dear Ms Coudray,

Upon request of the Communication and Information Sector Ref.: CI/FEM/FOE/fr/2015/838 of 18 February 2015 within the context of the Resolution 29 on the condemnation of violence against journalists, adopted by UNESCO's General Conference at its 29th session in 1997, as well as the Decision on the safety of journalists and the issue of impunity adopted by the Intergovernmental Council of UNESCO's International Programme for the Development of Communication (IPDC) at its 26th session in 2008, we have the honor to transmit herewith the information concerning the status of legal investigations of the killings of journalists mentioned in annex to the letter of Communication and Information Sector dated 18 February 2015.

By this letter, we also grant our permission to the Secretariat to post the aforementioned information on the web-site of UNESCO.

Please, accept, Madam, the assurances of my highest consideration.

Enclosure: 2 pages.

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'V. Voitovych'.

**Viktor Voitovych
Deputy Permanent Delegate**

**Ms. Sylvie COUDRAY
Chief
Section for Freedom of Expression
Communication and Information Sector**

UNESCO

The status of legal investigations of the journalist killings in Eastern regions of Ukraine in 2014

On 25 May 2014, the Investigation Division of the Main Department of the Ministry of Internal Affairs of Ukraine in Sloviansk of the Donetsk region opened criminal proceedings on the killings of Andrei Mironov and Andrea Rocchelli in accordance with Paragraph 1, Part 2 of Article 115 (Intended Killing) of the Criminal Code of Ukraine.

According to the forensic medical examination certificate, Andrea Rocchelli was killed due to blast injury.

On 26 May 2014, the body of Andrea Rocchelli was returned by the Head of Sloviansk Division of Forensic Medical Examination for transportation to the city of Izum and later to Italy.

The Investigation Division of the Ministry of Internal Affairs of Ukraine in Zaporizhia region is currently carrying out a pre-trial investigation in the criminal proceedings, initiated over the terrorist act that was carried out on 30 June 2014 in the village Opitne in Donetsk region, which resulted in a death of Anatoli Klian, the citizen of the Russian Federation, cameraman of the Russian Channel «First Channel» on the basis of evidence of the offence under Article 258 (Act of Terrorism) of the Criminal Code of Ukraine.

The number of orders has been given to the operational units of the internal affairs bodies, as well as to the expert institutions of the Ministry of Health of Ukraine in accordance with Article 40 (Pre-trial Investigation) of the Criminal Procedure Code of Ukraine. Relative forensic medical examination has been already commissioned.

The pre-trial investigation is currently being carried out, and taking into account the situation in Eastern regions of Ukraine, all the possible investigation actions in these criminal proceedings are being conducted, aimed at establishing of all the circumstances of mentioned crimes.

Currently, there is no information about the persons, who may be involved in committing criminal acts against Andrea Rocchelli, Andrei Mironov and Anatoli Klian.

On 6 May, a connection with Andrei Stenin, news photographer of International agency «Russia Today», was lost in the city of Shakhtarsk of the Donetsk region.

In this regard, on 12 August 2014, the Investigation Division of Novoazovsk of the Main Department of the Ministry of Internal Affairs of Ukraine in Donetsk region initiated a criminal case under Part 1 Article 115 (Intended Killing) with qualification «Missed».

Currently, conducting of the investigation in mentioned criminal pre-trial proceedings is impossible due to the dismissal of personnel of Novoazovsk District Law Enforcement Division and further dissolution of this institution, as

a territorial subdivision of the Main Department of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Ukraine in Donetsk region.

On 17 June 2014, Igor Kornelyuk and Anton Voloshin, the journalists from the Russian Federation were fatally wounded after gunshot during the armed clash in Slavyanoserbsk District of Lugansk region.

On 18 June 2014, based on mentioned facts, the Investigation Division of Slovianoserbsk of the Main Department of the Ministry of Internal Affairs of Ukraine in Lugansk region initiated a criminal case in accordance with Part 1 Article 115 (Intended Killing) of the Criminal Code of Ukraine.

On 20 June 2014, mentioned criminal proceedings were referred for further pre-trial investigation to the Investigation Division of the Department of the Security Service of Ukraine in Kharkivska region.

Currently, the Investigation Division of the Department of the Security Service of Ukraine in Kharkivska region conducts a pre-trial investigation in criminal proceedings on the fact of killing of the journalists.

On 19 February 2014, Vyacheslav Veremyi, the correspondent of «Visti» newspaper was found with gunshot wound of the left shoulder, as well as with cerebrocranial injury. Later he died in hospital.

Later on the same day, the Investigation Division of Desnianskiy District Department of the Main Department of the Ministry of Internal Affairs in Kyiv opened criminal proceedings for offences under Part 1, Article 115 (Intended Killing) of the Criminal Code of Ukraine.

On 23 February 2014, mentioned criminal proceedings were referred to the Prosecutor-General's Office of Ukraine for further pre-trial investigation.

Currently, The Main Investigation Department of the Prosecutor-General's Office of Ukraine carries out criminal proceedings on the facts of committing intended killing of Vyacheslav Veremyi and assault to murder of other persons, as well as a damage of the car, where they had been in the moment of a crime. The persons who committed this crime are identified. The indictment concerning one of suspected persons was referred to the court.