

Journalist Extradited from Ukraine to Turkey

On 26 October 2017, the Ministry of Justice of the Republic of Turkey through diplomatic channels requested the Office of the Prosecutor General of Ukraine to extradite Mr Yusuf Inan, wanted by Turkey's competent authorities in connection with committing a crime of participating in an armed criminal organisation (article 314, section 2 of the Criminal Code of the Republic of Turkey).

It should be noted that in making decisions on extradition of persons, Ukraine takes into account the risk of the violation of rights of those persons due to persecution on racial, religious, national or political grounds, including their work as journalists.

As a result of extradition inspection, conducted by public prosecution bodies of Ukraine, no circumstances which could impede extradition of Mr Yusuf Inan to the competent authorities of the Republic of Turkey were established. Therefore, it was decided to extradite Mr Yusuf Inan to Turkey.

The decision was adopted on the basis of the rules of the 1957 European Convention on Extradition, ratified by Ukrainian Parliament, which governs relations between Ukraine and the Republic of Turkey with respect to extradition.

The decree by the Office of the Prosecutor General of Ukraine on extradition was not appealed by Mr Yusuf Inan and came into effect.

It should be stressed that the rules of valid domestic and international law are mandatory and applicable to all persons, including journalists.