

## **Response of Government of Azerbaijan**

Based on files submitted by the Ministry of Justice of the Republic of Azerbaijan the General Prosecutor's office launched criminal case regarding wrongdoings disclosed in activities of some local NGOs and branches of some foreign organizations on April 22 2014. Within the same case, it was found out that the chief of a non-profit organization - Radio Free Europe/ Radio Freedom's Baku Bureau Ismayilova Khadija Rovshan abused her authority, evaded large amount of funds from state budget, was engaged in illegal entrepreneurship and thus gained large amount of profit. Also taking into account grounded suspicion on her evasion of income tax, she was detained by law enforcement agencies on 13 February 2015. In order to ensure comprehensive, full and objective investigation of several crimes committed by one person, criminal cases against her on articles 284.2 and 125 of Criminal Code of the Republic of Azerbaijan were merged on February 19 2015. Based on this she was again accused with articles 179.3.2, 192.2.2, 213.1, 308.2 and 125 of the Criminal Code on February 24 2015 and taking into account the complexity of the case her detention period was extended.