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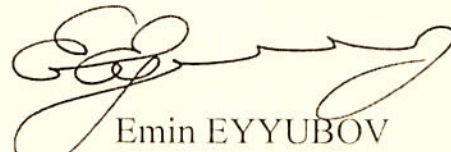
26 August 2015

Dear Mr. Gruden,

I herewith attach comments of Azerbaijan to the information about Rasim Aliyev's death submitted by several NGOs to the Platform for the Promotion of the Protection of Journalism and the Safety of Journalists.

I request your kind assistance to ensure uploading the information to the website.

Sincerely,



Emin EYYUBOV
Permanent Representative

Encl: 1 page

Mr. Matjaž GRUDEN,
Director of Policy Planning
Council of Europe
Strasbourg

On August 8, 2015, a resident of the city of Baku Aliyev Rasim Mammadalioglu sustained numerous bodily injuries after he was beaten by a group of persons and was hospitalized to the Clinical Medical Center where he deceased on the 9th of August.

Immediately, General Prosecutor's Office launched a criminal case on the fact under the Article 126.3 (deliberate causing of serious harm to health, imprudence entailed to death of a victim) of the Criminal Code. During the preliminary investigation process it was determined that on August 6, Javid Huseynov a player of f.c. Gabala made a phone call to Rasim Aliyev and demanded publishing a disclaimer in respect of critical statements published by the latter at his personal Facebook page concerning behavior of J. Huseynov in an earlier interview with journalists.

Later, Elshan Ismayilov, a cousin of J. Huseynov also made a call to R. Aliyev with a same demand and in this context a quarrel arose between them. Afterwards, Elshan Ismayilov seeking revenge against R. Aliyev, gathered a group of his friends Jamal Mammadov, Arif Aliyev, Kanan Madatov, Samir Mustafayev and met with R. Aliyev in the Bayil settlement where latter was beaten by the group at 16:00 on August 8.

Therefore, citizens of Azerbaijan Elshan Ismayilov, Samir Mustafayev, Jamal Mammadov, Kanan Madatov and Arif Aliyev were suspected of committing the crime under Article 126.3 of the Criminal Code and detained by the court decision.

Having reasonable suspicion that Javid Huseynov, a player of f.c. Gabala was aware of the crime planned by his cousin E. Ismayilov and failed to report about it and also without prior promise tried to conceal the crime after it was committed, he was accused under Article 307.1 (failure to report conclusive knowledge of a planned or committed crime) and 307.2 (not previously promised concealment of a grievous crime) of the Criminal Code and was remanded in custody by the court. The law enforcement bodies are also investigating possibility of his incitement to the crime.

The President of the Republic of Azerbaijan has taken the case under his personal supervision. The course of investigation and implemented measures are reported to him on a regular basis.

Investigation is pending.