

SECRETARIAT GENERAL

SECRETARIAT OF THE COMMITTEE OF MINISTERS
SECRETARIAT DU COMITE DES MINISTRES



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Meeting: 1236 meeting (22-24 September 2015) (DH)

Item reference: Communication from the Russian authorities (07/07/2015) concerning the case of Rantsev against Cyprus and the Russian Federation (Application No. 25965/04)

Information made available under Rule 8.2.a of the Rules of the Committee of Ministers for the supervision of the execution of judgments and of the terms of friendly settlements.

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Réunion : 1236 réunion (22-24 septembre 2015) (DH)

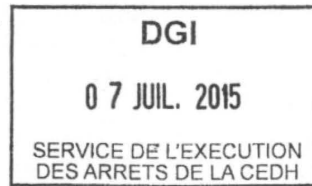
Référence du point : Communication des autorités russes concernant l'affaire Rantsev contre Chypre et la Fédération de Russie (requête n° 25965/04) (**anglais uniquement**).

Informations mises à disposition en vertu de la Règle 8.2.a des Règles du Comité des Ministres pour la surveillance de l'exécution des arrêts et des termes des règlements amiables.



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Council of Europe
Department for the Execution of
Judgments of the European Court of
Human Rights

Ms. Genevieve Mayer

07 July 2015 № 10 - 3324 - 15

На № _____ от _____

Application: *Rantsev v. Cyprus and Russia*
No. 25965/04

Dear Madame,

In connection with your communications dated 13 April 2015 and 22 June 2015 I inform you that N.M.Rantsev's letters enclosed to the mentioned communications have been sent to the Investigative Committee of the Russian Federation (hereinafter referred to as "the IC of Russia") and the Prosecutor General's Office of the Russian Federation.

As previously reported, the investigative department for Chelyabinsk of the Investigation Department of the Investigative Committee of the Russian Federation performed procedural inspection in connection with the alleged recruitment of O.N.Rantseva in the territory of the Russian Federation. During the inspection a complex of the required investigative measures and verification actions has been performed and as a result thereof no objective data evidencing O.N. Rantseva's recruitment in the territory of the Russian Federation have been established.

During the inspection V. – the founder of Flesh-Tour travel agency and K. - Director of ООО Intersvyaz, who had been engaged in employment of citizens abroad under the relevant licenses until 2001 and had formalized O.N.Rantseva's documents for going to the Republic of Cyprus, have also been interviewed. Those persons categorically denied commission of any illegal actions in respect of their clients, including the applicant's daughter. The information received from the competent state authorities also does not certify either that the employees of the aforementioned travel agency were engaged in the illegal activities, including in recruitment of persons going abroad.

Persons who had used V.'s and K.'s services for the purpose of employment in the Republic of Cyprus (including witnesses who were asked for questioning by the victim) have been found and interviewed. They explained that they had gone abroad on a voluntarily basis and have been notified of the conditions of the expected work, however they were not aware of any facts of human trafficking.

Such statements were given, in particular, by K., an acquaintance of O.N.Rantseva, who also used in 2000 the services of the firm Flesh-Tour for employment in the territory of the Republic of Cyprus. She explained that nobody had forced her to work or had

hindered her return home and that she had no information about recruitment of Russian girls for sexual slavery.

S., who was employed through the aforementioned agency as a dancer in the cabaret Zigos and afterwards helped O.N.Rantseva wishing to go abroad to dance to be employed in that organisation, has also been found and interviewed as a witness. That witness explained that she had gone to the territory of the Republic of Cyprus on a voluntarily basis, that nobody had recruited her and that she had worked in the cabaret Zigos at her own free will.

A complex of other special investigation activities has been also performed but no evidence of recruitment of O.N.Rantseva in the territory of the Russian Federation had been received.

Evidences collected in respect of the case certify that O. N. Rantsev went to the Republic of Cyprus on a voluntarily basis and there are no other proves of O.N.Rantseva's recruitment in the territory of the Russian Federation.

According to results of the inspection of 29 April 2011 a decision was delivered to dismiss initiation of criminal proceedings for lack of *corpus delicti* (hereinafter referred to as the decision of 29 April 2011). The applicant has been duly informed about the decision and the procedure for appeal against it was explained to him. No complaints from the applicant have been received in connection with the delivered decision.

The Investigative Committee of the Russian Federation has verified the aforementioned procedural decision and it was recognized legal and justified.

Moreover, if the Government of the Republic of Cyprus detect any evidence of O.N.Rantseva's recruitment in the territory of the Russian Federation and the relevant materials are submitted to the Government of the Russian Federation, it may serve as the ground for quashing the decision of 29 April 2011 and reopening of the procedural inspection.

At the same time, I am sending the complaint received from N.M.Rantsev, in which he expressed his disagreement with the actions of the Government of the Republic of Cyprus in respect of investigation of the criminal case upon O.N.Rantseva's death in the territory of the Republic of Cyprus, in order to take into account the applicant's position when considering the materials provided by the Governments of the Republic of Cyprus in respect of execution of the judgment *Rantsev v. Cyprus and Russia* so far as relating to the effective investigation of the aforementioned criminal case.

Attachment: on 1 page

Head of Office of the Representative of the Russian
Federation at the European Court of Human Rights,
Deputy Minister of Justice of the Russian Federation



A.M. Fedorov