Position on detention by Russian authorities and sentence to 2.5 years in jail on terrorism charges of Crimean Tatar journalist Nariman Memedeminov

The Prosecutor’s Office of the Autonomous Republic of Crimea provides procedural guidance in the criminal proceedings on the fact of illegal prosecution and violation of the right to a fair trial against Crimean Tatar activist and civil journalist Nariman Memedeminov, on the grounds of a criminal offense under Part 1 of Art. 438 of the Criminal Code of Ukraine.

The pre-trial investigation established that on October 2, 2019, Nariman Memedeminov was sentenced to 2 years and 6 months in jail by illegally created the Southern Military District Court of the Russian Federation. The actions of the «judges of the Southern Military District Court of the Russian Federation» violate the laws and customs of war due to the deprivation of Nariman Memedeminov of the right to a fair trial and the illegal application of the criminal legislation of the Russian Federation in the temporarily occupied territory of the Crimean Peninsula, which is a serious violation of the Convention on the Protection of Civilian Population in Time of War 1949 year.

Taking into account the above, we condemn the aggressive actions of the Russian Federation and draw attention to the systemic human rights violations in Crimea and the necessity to increase pressure on the Russian Federation to stop persecuting Ukrainian citizens in the temporarily occupied territory of Ukraine.