

**Ukraine's position on the announcement No. 190/2022 «Reuters Journalists
Aleksandr Ermochenko and Pavel Klimov Injured, Driver Killed Near
Sievierodonetsk » of June 13, 2022**

On February 24, 2022, the political and military leadership of the Russian Federation, acting contrary to the requirements of paragraphs 1 and 2 of the Memorandum on Security Guarantees in connection with the accession of Ukraine to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons dated December 5, 1994, the principles of the Final Act of the Conference on Security and Cooperation in Europe dated August 1, 1975, the requirements of Part 4 of Article 2 of the Charter of the United Nations, as well as a number of Declarations approved by the Resolutions of the General Assembly of the United Nations (UNGA Resolution dated December 9, 1981 No. 36/103, UNGA Resolution dated December 16, 1970 No. 2734 (XXV), Resolution of the UN General Assembly dated 21.12.1965 No. 2131 (XX), Resolution of the UN General Assembly dated 14.12.1974 No. 3314 (XXIX), etc.), ordered the units of the armed forces of the Russian Federation to launch a full-scale invasion of the territory of Ukraine.

On the same day, in compliance with the above-mentioned order, servicemen of the armed forces of the Russian Federation illegally invaded the territory of Ukraine through open armed aggression and carried out an armed attack on military and civilian objects, objects of critical infrastructure, of national economic and defense importance, etc. and also illegally occupied parts of the territory of Ukraine. These actions of the armed forces of the Russian Federation led and continue to lead, in particular, to the deaths and injuries of hundreds of thousands of people, including journalists.

On February 24, 2022, in response to the illegal actions of the Russian Federation, martial law was introduced in Ukraine (see Decree of the President of Ukraine No. 64/2022 dated February 24, 2022, Law of Ukraine «On Approval of the Decree of the President of Ukraine «On the Introduction of Martial Law in Ukraine»).

The Russian Federation acts in a gross and cynical violation of the laws and customs of war, in particular by shelling civilian infrastructure objects (which includes shelling populated areas with missiles of various types), located both on the front line and far beyond it.

On June 3, 2022, representatives of the occupation forces of the Russian Federation fired at the car in which Reuters journalists Oleksandr Yermochenko and Pavlo Klimov and the driver were. The vehicle was moving along the Rubizhne-Severodonetsk road. As a result of the shelling, the journalists were injured, and their driver was killed. Therefore, the Russian Federation is solely responsible for this crime.

At the same time, we note that the Severodonetsk District Prosecutor's Office opened criminal proceedings on July 13, 2022 on the grounds of a criminal offense provided for Article 438 of the Criminal Code of Ukraine «Violation of the laws and customs of war».

Currently, the pre-trial investigation in criminal proceedings is ongoing, measures are being taken to establish the circumstances of the crime.