

**Ukraine's position on the alert No. 201/2021 «Ukreximbank Personnel Seize Journalists' Equipment,
Delete Footage During Interview» of October 12, 2021**

According to the information provided by the National Police of Ukraine, the Holosiiv Police Department of the Main Directorate of the National Police in Kyiv conducted a pre-trial investigation on the grounds of criminal offenses provided for in part one of Article 126 (beatings and muggings), part one and three of Article 171 (Obstruction of lawful professional activity of journalists) of the Criminal Code of Ukraine (hereinafter - CC of Ukraine) in connection with obstruction of professional activity of journalists Oleksandr Mazur and Kyrilo Ovsyany by officials of the Joint Stock Company «State Export-Import Bank of Ukraine» (hereinafter - Bank).

On October 6, 2021, according to the Office of the Prosecutor General of Ukraine, two persons were informed of the suspicion of committing criminal offenses under par. 1 and par. 3 of Art. 171, as well as under par. 2 of Art. 146 (Illegal imprisonment or kidnapping) of the CC of Ukraine on the basis of the collected evidence. On October 23, 2021 the prosecutor made a decision to close the criminal proceedings in respect of the reported suspicion under par. 2 of Art. 146 of the CC of Ukraine.

On October 8, 2021 and October 22, 2021 two more persons were notified of the suspicion under par.1 and par. 3 of Art. 171, as well as under par. 1 of Art. 126 of the Criminal Code of Ukraine.

By rulings of the investigating judge of the Holosiivskyi District Court of Kyiv of October 11, 2021, two suspects were placed under house arrest, and another suspect was given a personal commitment for a period up to and including December 5, 2021.

On October 18, 2021, a judge of the Holosiivskyi District Court of Kyiv authorized investigators with temporary access to objects and documents and ordered the bank's officials to provide them with access to appointment orders, employment agreements, civil law agreements, regarding labor activity, as well as to job descriptions in regards of three persons; lists of security guards who allowed persons to enter the Bank's premises (made appropriate entries in the Bank's visitors' logbook) for October 4, 2021; data on the person (persons) who escorted journalists from the entrance to the office of the Chairman of the Management Board of the Bank on October 4, 2021; video recordings from all video surveillance cameras of the Bank for the period from 11.00 A.M. up to 15.00 P.M. on October 4, 2021, and also ordered the officials of the above-mentioned Bank to allow investigators to seize copies of these documents.

On November 2, 2021, based on the results of the inquiry in the above-mentioned criminal proceedings, an indictment was approved, which was sent to the Holosiivskyi District Court of Kyiv for consideration on the merits.

In addition, on November 12, 2021, the Supervisory Board of the Bank at its extraordinary meeting unanimously decided to appeal to the Board of the Bank to take measures to immediately terminate the employment of Igor Telbizov and Oleg Osipov. The Board of the Bank at its extraordinary meeting, having considered the recommendation of the Supervisory Board, took a unanimous decision to dismiss Igor

Telbizov and Oleg Osipov from their positions on the basis of paragraph 2) part 1 of Art. 40 of the Labor Code of Ukraine, namely on the basis of the identified professional incompetence with regard to their positions .