



Monitoring of Xenophobia and Extremism in Ukraine March 2014

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1. Introduction

The difficult situation in Ukraine in the course of the last few months led not only to a positive change. Due to this fact mass grave and especially grave crimes against person including assault and battery, torture, rape, and threats of killing take place. These crimes have both criminal and political grounds. The society is tense to the limit.

2. Accidents.

**- The number of casualties in clashes in Kharkov has risen to 138 people.
Kharkov, 02.03.2014**

138 people were injured during the capture of the regional state administration building in Kharkiv on March 1 as Deputy Mayor for Health and Social Welfare, Svetlana Gorbunova-Ruban told to reporters according to 'Ukrainian News'.

On Saturday 82 people of whom nine were hospitalized were delivered to Meschaninov city emergency hospital. 2 more people turned to the hospital on Sunday. They were recorded as having injuries including from traumatic arms bullets, and some had cut wounds.

Writer, Sergei Jadan suffered during the riots. "Two cuts to the head, cut to eyebrows, a concussion, broken nose suspected. I was beaten by bats of the head from behind. They attacked only as a mob. On the demand to kneel I flipped them off... and was pulled out by police..." - Jadan wrote.

Among the victims there was a girl and six minors. All of them are citizens of Ukraine. "Yesterday, when admitted to a hospital the affected were examined by all experts; the health facility is provided with everything necessary for medical care," - said Gorbunov-Ruban.

<http://112.ua/glavnye-novosti/kolichestvo-postradavshih-v-rezultate-stolknoveniy-v-harkove-vozroslo-do-138-chelovek-28814.html>

- Gang under the guise of self-defense squads attack humans. Zaporizhye region, 03.03.2014

Today in the Zaporozhye region there are more than 70 units of public order protection. Since the beginning of the year, law enforcement officers identified three gangs that under the guise of self-defense forces looted and attacked people. This was told by the GUMVD Chief of Staff, Oleg Kurochkin during a briefing.

- We know that now new civil defense formations are actively created. But so far, not all of them are cooperating with the police. They serve separately from law enforcement agencies. And, unfortunately, we do not have information that somewhere the crimes were prevented by them or they assisted in solving crimes, - Oleg Kurochkin said. According to him, in the Zaporozhye region and directly in the city of Zaporozhye three crimes related to civil defense units were committed. So, in Energodar, under the guise of civil defense squad, "Bulava", attackers robbed a woman. Similar crimes were committed in Volnjansky region where criminals stopped the car and took the weapon from the driver for which he had the license; the same happened in Kommunarskiy district of Zaporozhye region.

"Attackers stopped a passerby on the street and asked to produce documents that it is illegal. Policemen do not do this. The police officer has the right to establish the identity of the citizen, if he has committed any offense or is suspected of committing it. Here, without any reason, they demanded documents, and the victim was beaten when taking the documents out, "- said the GUMVD Chief of Staff, Oleg Kurochkin.

<http://iz.com.ua/zaporoje/34855-v-zaporozhskoy-oblasti-bandy-pod-vidom-otryadov-samooborony-napadayut-na-lyudev.html>

- In a mass brawl in Kiev weapons stolen in Lviv was used. Kiev, 06.03.2014

At the briefing in Lviv this info was provided by Yuri Gladun, Chief of Staff of Research Affairs of Ukraine in Lviv region. "Weapons are already beginning to appear in Kyiv. Yesterday, during a mass brawl in Borispol, which was attended by about 200 people, Makarov pistol stolen from Galitsky district police department of Lviv was found"- said Yuri Gladun.

http://ru.golos.ua/social_problem/14_03_06_orujie_pohischennoe_vo_lvove_uje_proyavilo_sebya_v_kieve

- A group of fighters led by people's deputy Ljashko seized a deputy Klinchaev, Luhansk Regional Council. Lugansk, 10.03.14

Arsen Klinchaev, deputy of Luhansk Regional Council was captured on the night of March 10. This info was posted by **people's deputy and** leader of the Radical Party **Oleg Ljashko** on his FB page.

<http://www.obzor.lg.ua/news/lyashko34237>

<http://news.bigmir.net/ukraine/799739-Deputat-iz-Luganska-o-Ljashko--v-sledujushij-raz-on-poluchit-pulju-v-lob>

<http://www.pravda.com.ua/rus/news/2014/03/11/7018400/?attempt=1>

- A house of the famous pro-Russian politician and prominent businessman Victor Medvechuk was burned in Kiev region. Kiev region, 12.03.201.

There is a lot of luxury villas in a protected nature reserve “Stugna” near the Tatsenko village (38 km from Kiev), Obukhov district; it is even forbidden to ride in cars in the vicinities.

The locals know one of estates particularly well: they say it has the tastiest exit to the river and with it a couple of acres of pine reserve, occupied by a politician and a businessman Viktor Medvedchuk.

However, it is impossible to explore the Medvedchuk lands now: the main house of the residence was burnt down on February 21. It was the day of the mass deaths on Maidan; unknowns set the building on fire. Only a charred tree left from the luxury building. The allocated shoreline, pier, security booth and barrier for boats remind of the bygone luxury.

“Nobody lived in that house, it was Medvedchuk’s cottage. It literally took 30-40 minutes for it to burn down. I have not seen how it was set on fire; nobody came by water, I think. We did not attempt to extinguish it, as it burned too good,” - told us one of the guards of a house situated in front of the Medvedchuk’s cottage.

<http://vesti.ua/kiev/42064-pod-kievom-zakryli-vezd-v-ugodja-medvedchuka>

- Estate of Former Prosecutor Viktor Pshonka Looted by Marauders. Kiev, 07/03/2014

Channel Five tells about the details of the looting of the estate of the former prosecutor Viktor Pshonka. As the journalists say, masked strangers are responsible for the attack.

<https://news.pn.ua/incidents/98652>

- Anti-fascist march in Kharkov was shot from traumatic weapons. Kharkiv 08.03.2014

Straight after the end of anti-fascist march in Kharkov a group of its participants, going to their homes on Pravda Prospect, was approached by a minibus.

a minibus from which About 10 young athletic men emerged from this minibus and opened fire on participants of the march.

Later they came closer and beat march participants by truncheons and baseball bats. Also they severely damaged the car in which Georgievsky ribbons and flags of march participants were transported.

<http://qlagol.in.ua/2014/03/08/antifashistskuyu-aktsiyu-v-harkove-rasstrelyali-iz-ognestrelnogo-oruzhiya/>

- AntiMaidan participant from Crimea: Our bus was attacked by Right Sector, passengers got beaten. Korsun-Shevchenkivskiy, 11.03.2014

A resident of Simferopol Tatiana Midieva claims that while returning from Kiev AntiMaidan to Crimea, their bus was attacked by representatives of the Right Sector under Korsun-Shevchenkivskiy; supporters of the former government got severely beaten. Midieva said this in an interview posted on Youtube.

According to the girl, the bus, in which she was riding together with her friends, the participants AntiMaidan in Kiev back to Crimea, was allegedly assaulted by members of the Right Sector on the Korsun-Shevchenkivskiy roadblock; people got brutally beaten.

“There was a roadblock. We stood for 10 minutes and then decided to back off. They started shooting and throwing Molotov cocktails. I got out of the bus; they hit me and then began pulling out the boys from the bus. I requested that they called an ambulance, because in the bus there was a man who was run over with a car of people who also trying to stop us before. They called an ambulance, but started beating us. Everyone. Boys, girls – they did not care,” - told the witness of the incident.

In addition, Midieva claims that they were forced to sing the anthem of Ukraine, shout "Glory to the heroes" and speak Ukrainian. At the moment, Midieva is in the hospital with a spinal injury.

<http://112.ua/kriminal/uchastnica-antimaydana-iz-kryma-na-passazhirovo-nashego-avtobusa-napal-pravyi-sektor-i-izbil-32714.html>

- Clashes between two demonstrations in Donetsk resulted in a death and injuries. Donetsk, 14.03.2014

About 20 people injured because of the clashes between two demonstrations were taken to hospital. The press service of the Donetsk regional state administration reports it referring to the Ministry of Public Health.

"According to the information of the medical service by 22 p.m. 13 March, Thursday, the clashes between two demonstrations on Lenin Square in Donetsk resulted in one person's death. Altogether 17 people turned to doctors for help. Two of them received on-site assistance and did not need hospitalization. Two people were taken to the regional traumatology, one – to the city hospital №17 and 11 – to the neurosurgery department of the DOKTMO (Kalinin Hospital). One man died. It was a 22-year-old resident of Donetsk. He died in the ambulance from a stab wound," says the public health department.

According to the news resource *Novosty Donbassa*, two people died. The state of one patient is extremely severe and the state two more patients is very severe.

Eye-witnesses say that after the demonstration ended aggressive young men began to assault pro-Ukrainians. They hurled petards, water bags, empty vodka bottles, stones and sprayed tear-gas. At the same time they called out "Russia!" and "Kneel!"

It should be mentioned that at the time of the clashes a few police vehicles were damaged.

<http://irtafax.com.ua/news/2014/03/2014-03-14-5.html>

- Unknown people threw Molotov cocktails into the building of the *Russia's Sberbank* in Kiev. Kiev, 19.03.2014

In Kiev unknown people threw Molotov cocktails into the building of the *Russia's Sberbank* in Esplanadnaya Street. 112.ua got this information from a source in the Ministry of Internal Affairs.

'About 5.30 a.m. a group of unknown men attacked a branch bank of the *Russia's Sberbank* in Esplanadnaya Street. They threw several Molotov cocktails. The building got no damage, only metal structures were sooted,' the source reports.

<http://112.ua/kriminal/v-kieve-neizvestnye-brosili-kokteyli-molotova-v-zdanie-sberbanka-rossii-36900.html>

- The attempt to capture the office and property of the *Rossostrudnichestvo* failed. Kiev, 23.03.2014

On March 23 in Kiev a group of men calling themselves the Maidan 11th sotnia (squad) made an attempt to penetrate a building, rent by the Russian Federation for the Russian Centre of Science and Culture (RSSC) in the capital of Ukraine, the web site of the Russian Ministry of Foreign Affairs reports.

These people stated that they wanted to use the building and the equipment and property inside belonging to the Russian Federation for setting their headquarters. They also threatened to the present Ukrainian citizens warning them not to cooperate with Russia in any way. At the same time a RSSC car was stolen. Only after the Russian embassy and the Russian Centre of Science and Culture asked the headquarters of the Ukrainian Ministry of Internal Affairs to interfere, the group left the RSSC building and soon returned the stolen car, the Foreign Ministry reports.

http://mid.ru/brp_4.nsf/newslines/C5D90A73BDBDAAEC44257CA50045780C

- In Zaporozhye “Maydan samooborona” has committed an assault on participators of pro-Russian rally. Zaporozhye, 24/03/2014

Rally with a Russian flag was assaulted in Zaporozhye; cars were damaged, there were injured persons. “Den. Zaporozhye” daily informs about it. The organizers call this rally “Friendship Rally from Melitopol to Zaporozhye”.

“Several dozen members of so called “Euromaydam samooborona” (community defence volunteers) armed with hammers, axes and spades as well as with stones, bars, sticks and bottles assaulted Melitopol residents who went to Zaporozhye to participate in an event of the South-East People’s Front arranged by Slavianskaya Gvardiya non-government organization,” the daily reports. When the rally participators approached a ring road in the area of ZAZ automobile plant they were assaulted by samooborona extremists who started to crash windscreens and side windows of the cars, break flags and mirrors, attack people sitting in the cars.

At the same time a correspondent of “Vesti” from Zaporozhye has described this incident in another way. According to him, a car convoy with flags of the Russian Federation went from Melitopol to the pro-Russian meeting. Samooborona members tried to search the cars. However, one of the convoy participators stepped down the gas pedal and ran into one of the activists. That activist was hospitalized because of a broken leg. A scuffle began after this.

<http://112.ua/kriminal/v-zaporozhe-napalni-na-avtoprobeg-s-rossiyskim-flagom-razbity-avtomobili-est-ranenyie-38726.html>

- Alexandr Muzychko, head of “Right Sector” in West Ukraine, has been killed. Rovno, 25/03/2014

Deputy Oles Boniy informed about a murder of activist of “Right Sector” nicknamed Sashko Bily in Rovno (real name is Alexandr Muzychko). The politician wrote about it on his page in Facebook.

It was reported just now that Sashko Bily (Alexandr Muzychko) was killed in Kiev. Two automobiles cut up his car, pulled out, put into their car. Then threw onto the ground – hands behind the back in handcuffs, two shots to the heart”, Doniy reported.

Later “Vse” Rovno website relying on information from its own sources reported that a tragedy took place this night in “Tree Karasia” coffee bar located near Sarny and Zhytin ring roads.

Allegedly unknown people arranged shooting resulting in death of Alexandr Muzychko. “His body is now in several dozen meters from the coffee bar. Currently an operational and investigation group is working at the crime scene,” the website reports.

According to information, several people who were in the coffee bar were also kidnapped.

“Right Sector” activist Yaroslav Granitny confirmed information about murder to “ChaRivne” mass medium. He reported that he saw the body. Clothes were torn on it.

“Those who killed him ensured that he had not a bulletproof vest on and then shot to his heart,” Granitny said.

According to him, no one else was killed. However, there were three fighters of “Right Sector” and two civilians among the kidnapped. Head of the municipal employment centre Vladimir Datsenko was among them.

<http://www.pravda.com.ua/rus/news/2014/03/25/7020184/>

- Chairman of “Svoboda” regional organization of Bakhmach city has received a severe beating. Chernigov Region, 25/03/2014

On 22 March 2014 chairman of “Svoboda” regional organization of Bakhmach city Vinogradov received a severe beating in Chernigov Region. An assaulter attacked him right in the premise where Vinogradov intended to perform private medical examination

for him. "Svoboda" press-service reports about it.

It is commonly known that Mikhail Vinogradov is one of the doctors of the Medical Hundred and Military Hospital at Maydan, a famous homeopathic physician. Soon he is to assume an office of the head of the regional state administration of Bakhmach. Attempt on Mikhail Vinogradov has being investigated by an investigating group from the local offices of the Ministry of Internal Affairs and Security Service of Ukraine.

http://www.gorod.cn.ua/print/news_53482.html

- In Kharkiv a woman was beaten for a St. George Ribbon and the Russian language. Kharkiv, 26.03.2014

In Kharkiv a case of beating for wearing a St. George Ribbons and explanations in Russian in response to a request (in Ukrainian) to show the way to the Dovzhenko cinema in August 23 Street was recorded. August 23 is the day of Kharkiv liberation from Nazi occupation. It was reported by the «REX» news agency with reference to Gennady Makarov, the head of the Kharkov association "For cultural and linguistic equality", the Chairman of the Coordination Council of the Russian organizations of Eastern Ukraine "Russian Veche".

Elena, 40 years old, on March 9 at 8.20 got off the bus in August 23 St. She had a St. George Ribbon attached to her chest. A tall young man about 30 years old approached her he asked her how to get to the Dovzhenko cinema in Halych dialect as it seemed to her. She began to answer in Russian showing the cinema. Here the young man sharply hit her chest and shouted in Ukrainian: "Bitch, study Ukrainian language". She maintained her footing, but she had darkened vision and with the help of the passers-by she reached the bench from where an ambulance was called, and it took the injured woman to the "Fourth Emergency Service". Her diagnosis is chest bruise. On the same day she was visited by a police officer who drew up a protocol on the attack.

<http://www.iarex.ru/news/46487.html>

- In Kyiv "Sberbank" office was vandalized by Samooborona Forces. Kiev, 26.03.2014

In Kiev in Vladimirskaya street, 46 the representatives of the Maidan Samooborona (Maidan Self-Defence) and "Avtodozor" held a picket in front of the building where the "Sberbank of Russia" is located, according to ForUm.

At this the "Samooborona" forces painted the Bank walls and windows with inscriptions "Occupier's Bank".

<http://for-ua.com/kyiv/2014/03/26/160047.html>

- In Sumy unidentified people threw Molotov cocktail through the window to "Sberbank of Russia", Sumy, 30.03.2014

On March 30 at about 4 AM in the Sumy office № 3 JSC "Sberbank of Russia" on 5a, Gorkiy St. fire occurred. It is reported by the Internet portal "Favorite Sumy."

According to Public Relations Sector of Internal Affairs of Ukraine in Sumy region, the securities of the bank said that the cause of the fire was arson. The guards stated that unknown person threw a bottle with unknown liquid into the building window. Police are currently conducting checks on this fact.

The fire was extinguished before the arrival of fire protection forces by bank guards.

<http://like.sumy.ua/news/proisshestviya/2458-v-sumakh-kinuli-butylku-s-zazhigatelnoj-smesy-u-v-okno-sberbanka-rossii>

- In Poltava a café owner was beaten for placing Russian flag, Poltava, 31.03.2014

A resident of Poltava was severely beaten. During broadcasts of sport events in his cafe he hung out a Russian flag. After that everything happened. It is reported by VZ.RU.

Evening of March 12, six masked men armed with bats and guns smashed the car of Zolotchenko first, and then broke into his home and beat him with rifle butts right in front of his wife and daughter. Wife called the police, but it has not arrived. After the attack Zolotchenko received few threats, and he and his family moved to Odessa.

<http://www.vz.ru/news/2014/3/31/679793.html>

- At night unidentified men tried to burn the building of Lenin District Branch of "Party of Regions" in Lugansk, Lugansk, 31.03.2014

It is reported by portal Polemika.ua.

Unidentified men damaged metal shutters on the windows of the office. As a result of the actions of intruders walls and door were burned. As per spokesman of Lugansk Regional branch of Party of Regions Yuri Yurov, also inscription on the building appeared "Right Sector", "Death to enemies"

<http://polemika.com.ua/news-142323.html>

3. Statements of authorities

- The deputy head of Dnipropetrovsk Regional State Administration urged to give any promises to the Crimeans, and then "hang" them. Dnepropetrovsk 06.03.2014

"No assault forces from Maidan. No extremist statements. It is necessary to give scums any promises, guarantees, and to make any concessions ... And to hang ... But they should be hanged after", posted Filatov on FB. As per him: "There is nothing wrong in extending the Crimean autonomy and giving Russian a status of a state language. This will prevent escalation of tension and preserve Ukraine".

<http://www.vz.ru/news/2014/3/6/675943.html>

- In the course of the last 2 weeks more than 60 armed attacks were performed against police. Kiev, 11.03.2014

In Ukraine during the past two weeks 63 attacks on police using cold or firearms were performed. This was pointed out at the briefing by Chief of Department for Supervision over the Observance of Laws on Criminal Proceedings of the Prosecutor General Nikolai Goshovskiy.

<http://for-ua.com/incident/2014/03/11/194528.html>

- MP Igor Miroshnichenko threatens the stars of Russian show business physical violence. Kiev, 22.03.2014

If the appropriate bodies ignore the requirement to prevent entering to the territory of Ukraine the stars of Russian show business, who supported Russian aggression in the Crimea, "direct action" should be applied. This was posted by Igor Miroshnichenko, people's deputy of "Svoboda" on his FB page.

<http://www.pravda.com.ua/rus/news/2014/03/22/7019963/>

- A famous Ukrainian political strategist suggests that anti-governmental protestors should be buried alive. Kiev, 23.03.2014

A political strategist Taras Berezovets called for burying anti-governmental protestors in the South East of the country alive. He announced that on air of the so-called *Gromadsky-TV*.

'Kolomoysky managed to stop them. He showed spine in these hard times. All busses turned back. Those who won't turn back will soon be buried under soil tips. And that

was all, separatism vanished,' says Berezovets admiring for illegitimate governor of the Dnepropetrovsk Region Ihor Kolomoysky.

Then he heaped praises on Rinat Akhmetov.

'They should perform operation *Face into snow*. Rinat could do it relying on his security agencies. All these migrant offenders would either be laid in the ground or turn back. And would never come back,' said Berezovets about citizens of his own country who dislike the acting government.

<http://glagol.in.ua/2014/03/23/izvestnyiy-ukrainskiy-polittechnolog-prizval-zakopat-sograzhdan-zazhivo-za-antivlastnyie-protestyi/>

5. Civil society

- Interfaith relations

- Temple of the UOC MP was desecrated in Solnechnoe village, Zhytomyr region, 08.03.2014

According to bishop of the Zhytomyr diocese of the UOC MP of Zhytomyr and Novograd Volyn Archbishop Nicodemus, on the night of March 8 in the diocese act of vandalism occurred in relation to the church of St. John the Theologian in Solnechnoe village occurred.

<http://religions.unian.ua/orthodoxy/894831-na-jitomirschini-oskvernili-pravoslavniy-hram.html>

- In Crimea disappeared three priests of the UGCC. Crimea, 16.03.2014

In Crimea, on Sunday three priests of the Ukrainian Greek Catholic Church disappeared, the UGCC states.

<http://interfax.com.ua/news/general/196201.html>

- Priest of Cherkassy episcopate has received a letter with threats. Cherkassy Region, 25/03/2014

Non-registered National Socialist Working Party of Ukraine sent a letter to the address of a representative of the Ukraine autocephalous orthodox church (of Cherkassy episcopate) hegumen Aleksandr Shirokov. Ukrainian radicals demanded from the authoritative priest to stop "any pro-Moscow hostile propaganda". According to a proclamation of National Socialist Working Party of Ukraine, in the event that the churchman does not listen to the radical's threats comprehensive measures of physical and annihilating nature will be applied in regard to him and his family. Website of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Russian Federation informs about it.

http://mid.ru/brp_4.nsf/newslines/2353F8AEC4B7BDBB44257CA60039743D

- Hate Crimes

- Head of the Jewish rescue organization "Hatsala Ukraine" Rabbi Hillel Cohen was attacked in Kiev, 14.03.2014

An Israeli News channel reported on Friday, March 14 citing that the night before a rabbi was attacked by unknown People when he was heading to the hospital to visit a patient. The Rabbi was beaten and shot in the leg with a sharp object. The attackers insulted him, calling, inter alia, "the Jew."

It is not known who the attackers are but given that there are literally roaming bands of neo-fascists and neo-nazis now in the streets of Kiev with storm trooper like authority similar to or even higher than the police, it would not surprise me if they did it.

<http://brightsideglobal.com/?p=4415/>

<http://glagol.in.ua/2014/03/14/v-kieve-zhestoko-izbili-ravvina-gilelyva-koena-nazyivaya-ego-zhidom/>

- Yossif Kobzon: Kiev beat Yan Tabachnik (prominent Ukrainian musician and member of Party of Regions) was beaten in Kiev, 14.03.2014

"I have many friends in Ukraine. All of them do suffer due to humiliation. People's Artist of Ukraine and Verkhovna Rada deputy Yan Tabachnik came out from the Parliament meeting. And this crowd began to push and kick him screaming "Jewish face!" Kobzon stated in his interview to "Komsomolskaya Pravda".

<http://www.kp.ru/daily/26199/3086275/>

- A Jewish couple was attacked in Kiev. Kiev 14.03.2014

On March 14 a Jewish couple from Kiev reported that they were attacked on the eve of Shabbat on a main street in Kiev by eight armed individuals on their way to Shabbat celebration.

"They pointed at us and yelled we should stop in our tracks", said Zelman Hazkolivich, one of the individuals who was attacked. "I knew that if I didn't get away we would be in serious trouble. I hailed a cab, got into the car with my wife and asked the driver to leave the scene immediately".

"The attackers surrounded the cab and demanded the driver that he let us out", continued Hazkolivich. "The driver stepped on the gas, causing the attackers to move out of the way, but in the process they damaged the cab". According to Hazkolivich, the taxi driver pressed on the gas, but was soon stuck in traffic on another city street. The antisemitic attackers noticed that the cab had stopped and approached the vehicle, forcing the Jewish couple to desert the cab and make a run for it.

The Jewish couple ran through the streets until they reached the Synagogue.

<http://www.jerusalemonline.com/news/world-news/the-jewish-world/kiev-jews-attacked-on-route-to-purim-party-4333>

- Vandalism in relation to monuments

- People standing sentry at a monument to Lenin beaten in Dnepropetrovsk region. Dnepropetrovsk region, 09.03.2014

On March 9 in the Dnepropetrovsk region, unknown assailants beat and inflicted stab wounds to people on duty at a monument to Lenin using hammers. This was reported by a national deputy from the Party of Regions, Oleg Tsarev. "Tonight, guys who were on duty near the monument to Lenin were beaten with hammers and cut with knives. Their tents were cut to pieces. Police did not come. Let me remind you that currently, there is an unlimited campaign for the protection of the monument to Lenin in Novomoskovsk, Dnepropetrovsk region," - wrote the MP.

<http://112.ua/obshchestvo/v-dnepropetrovskoy-obl-izbili-dezhurivshih-u-pamyatnika-leninu-carev-31789.html>

- Monument to Hasidic rabbis pelted with Molotov cocktails in Chigirin. Cherkassy region, 09.03.2014

An act of vandalism took place against the monument Hasidic rabbis, located in the old cemetery in Chigirin (Cherkassy region of Ukraine).

According to local information portal "Remarka", unknown attackers pelted the Jewish monument with firebombs. The monument suffered major damage.

<http://glagol.in.ua/2014/03/09/v-chigirine-zabrosali-koktevyami-molotova-pamyatnik-hasidskim-ravvinam/>

- A cemetery desecrated In Uzhgorod. Uzhgorod, 12.03.2014

Over the past two days in the city cemetery of **Uzhgorod** "Kalvariya" unknown people damaged monuments on 10 graves.

<http://112.ua/kriminal/v-uzhgorode-na-gorodskom-kladbische-vandaly-povredili-pamyatniki-na-10-mogilah-33010.html>

- Hungarian monument desecrated in Veretsky Pereval. Zakarpatye region, 12.03.2014

In **Zakarpatye region**, March 11, the duty of the Svalyava district department of Ministry of Internal Affairs received a telephone message from a representative of the Hungarian Cultural Society of Zakarpatye. At night on Veretsky Pereval, on the border of the Zakarpatye and Lvov region near the Verbyazh village of Volovets district, unknowns doused the monument in memory of the Hungarian tribes who went through the Carpathian Mountains to the Danube valley with an unknown substance, and set fire to wreaths, which were at the foot of the monument.

<http://112.ua/kriminal/v-zakarpatskoy-obl-vandaly-povredili-pamyatnik-na-vereckom-perevale-33043.html>

6. Mass Media

- Attack against office of the GolosUA. Kiev, 01.03.2014

On March 1 GolosUA office was attacked by unknown persons. They poured gasoline over the entrance to the premises and wanted to burn gasoline, despite the fact that the office is in a residential home. Representatives of Self-Defense squads, who recently took over the office and made it the headquarters for the residents of Pechersk District, came to the attackers to determine their motives, but they came under fire, and there is one wounded.

http://ru.golos.ua/politika/14_03_01_na_ofis_golos_napali_est_ranenyie

- The reporter Sergey Rulyov was beaten and tortured on Maidan. Kiev, 05.03.2014

In the center of Kiev, on Maidan, unknowns in a camouflage beat and tortured the reporter of "Navigator" Sergey Rulyov who arrived to the square for taking pictures of the reporting on an anti-war action.

"Near Central Post Office the unknown man in a camouflage saw me and began to shout: "it was him who interviewed "Berkut"! ". After that I was seized, put an armlock on me and dragged into the tent opposite to the Trade Unions Building. I was offended there, beaten by legs, imputing me that I am on a "Berkut" side, that I made journalistic stories about it, that I am guilty for the death of 100 people" — Rulev said on a phone from an ambulance car.

"4 persons beat me. There was a woman in a scarf with them who, without saying a word, kicked me in a groin. After that they dragged me into the seized Ministry of Agrarian and Industrial complex where I was searched, the documents, the journalistic certificate, accreditation in the Verkhovna Rada, the business cards, two phones and two cameras were reived from me " - the journalist continued.

"When I was pulled out to Khreshchatyk again, I started shouting and calling for help, fell down on the ground, was again beaten by legs, but nobody reacted. Approximately at 12:00 I was dragged to the burned-down Trade Unions Building. In a lobby they immidiately started beating me. In a courtyard unknown people in a camouflage pulled together hands, stripped me to the buff and continued to beat. They shouted: "ah, I got you! ", "he is with "Berkut", he was killing us! ". After that, four of them pulling hard on

me on a floor, again something stuck something in my hand – they say, "now you, bitch, will talk to us, what intelligence services you work for! ", — the reporter claims. According to Rulyov, when he was convolved the unknown woman started torturing him – to pull his nails with flat-nose pliers.

After a while they endowed a bag on the Rulyov's head and drove him somewhere.

"Brought – put on a floor and began to beat again. I declared that I know Artyom Skoropadsky, the head of the "The Right Sector" press service, and also the journalist Elena Bilozerskaya who sympathes nationalists. Unknowns began to call her, Bilozerskaya confirmed that Rulyov is a journalist, but mentioned that earlier I painted over plates with indexes on Mazepa Street. It caused indignation – they started beating me again and threatening to put in a basin with cement and to dump to Dnepr" — the reporter continued.

"Then, a person with an imperious voice came to the room and told them that Sergey Rulyov is really the journalist, really he took pictures of events on Grushevsky street and expelled them all. I was unmasked. 2 young activists of "The right sector" appeared in front of me. They began to expostulate – they say, why you walk on Maidan. Gave me soothing pills, water, brought a t-shirt and a sweater. Copied all my data again. Returned me only the old phone and the old camera. Gave me guards and being accompanied by 4 people I was taken to Proreznaya street and put into the ambulance car. Now the car is taking lucky me to the hospital" — Rulyov concluded.

<http://www.politnavigator.net/na-majidane-izbili-i-pytali-reportjora-sergeya-ruljova.html>

- Foreign journalists were beaten and robbed in Simferopol. Simferopol, 06.03.2014

Representatives of mass media were beaten and their equipment was reived. The activist of a public initiative "the Crimea SOS" reported about it. According to his words, the film crew from Britain was attacked by Cossacks near Camelot club in the center of the capital, the satellite equipment was reived from the journalists. "When colleagues from Bulgaria began to film the fight, they were attacked, beaten and their cameras were taken away", — he reported. He also informed that the militia already works at a place.

<http://news.allcrimea.net/news/2014/3/6/v-simferopole-pobili-i-ograbili-inostrannyh-zhurnalistov-6778/>

- Journalists of Ukrainian television channels attacked near the regional administration building in Lugansk. Lugansk, 10.03.2014

In Lugansk, protesters attacked the journalists. The journalists of Ukraina TRK and NTN drove up to the building of regional administration; the protesters attacked them and smashed their equipment; one of the women from attackers signed video camera with her lipstick. The police managed to pull the injured journalists out of the crowd.

<http://m.0642.ua/news/491516>

- Television channel "Inter" office was attacked by the activist of maidan. Kiev, 15.03.2014

Hundreds of Maidan self-defense attempted to sneak into the office of the news production of television channel "Inter" in Kiev located at 26 Academic Schusev street. It was reported by a source in law enforcement agencies. According to him, about 40 people storming the television channel were armed with automatic rifles.

<http://polemika.com.ua/news-141213.html>

Oleksandr Panteleymonov, the chief manager of the *First National Channel*, was beaten in Kiev. Kiev, 18.03.2014

Members of Parliament from the Ukrainian Association *Svoboda* forced Oleksandr Panteleymonov, the acting president of the National Television Company of Ukraine (NTCU), step back from office.

The representatives of the *Svoboda* arrived at the NTCU around 19.30. Ihor Miroshnychenko, an MP from the *Svoboda*, called the NTCU a 'Moscow stooge' and accused him of constant lie at the channel during the Maidan. The deputies forced Panteleymonov sit down at the table and hit him on the head. After that about 20 people pushed Panteleymonov into a off-roader and drew away in an unknown direction.

'I encountered Oleksandr in lift after the incident. When the doors opened I saw him with a split lip, slashed forehead and a twisted jaw. What you saw in the video is just harmless cuffs on the nape and punches on the teeth. After beating in the office they beat him unmercifully near a fence in the street. And the more foul a rogue who took part in that was, the closer he strived through the crowd trying to at least pinch him. It is a real rustic meanness as it is,' quotes the *Komsomolskaya Pravda in Ukraine* an eye-witness of Panteleymonov's beating.

Dunja Mijatović, the OSCE Representative on Freedom of the Media, condemns categorically the actions of the *Svoboda* MPs. 'I am appalled by this outrageous action, which goes against all media freedom values and cannot be tolerated,' Mijatović wrote in a letter to Oleksandr Turchinov, the acting President of Ukraine, reports OSCE press-service. According to Mijatović, the OSCE is especially worried about the fact that 'some attackers not only represent the legislative branch of power, but also are members of the freedom of speech and information committee of the Parliament.' 'I urge the government to strengthen journalists' safety, especially during the current crisis in Ukraine,' Mijatović said. She mentioned that it was not the first incident in Ukraine. On 17 March a group of individuals stormed the office of state television in the Chernigov region and forced its director to resign. She also called on the authorities 'to launch swift and transparent investigations and bring all those responsible to justice'.

The OSCE Representative on Freedom of the Media called on the authorities to take steps to transform state television and radio into a true public service broadcaster, independent from political and business pressures.

<http://zn.ua/UKRAINE/deputaty-svobodovcy-siloy-zastavili-prezidenta-ntku-napisat-zayavlenie-ob-otstavke-141412.html>

<http://m.kp.ua/kiiev/pda/news/190314/444387/>

The *Inter* channel is been evacuated in Kiev, the *Right Sector* menaces with a storm

Several groups of people in camouflage and balaclavas have gathered near the office of the *Inter* channel. The infamous MP Miroshnychenko has also been noticed there.

The channel staff reports that a few people are already on the 6 floor. The staff have called the police and are now waiting for the reaction.

People in flak jackets and camouflage have dispersed around the building. Some of them have gathered at the main entrance but the doors there have already been locked and windows are closed with rolladens. Some people, reportedly the staff, are leaving the building through the escape exits, eye-witnesses say. No panic is observed, no one acts aggressively. By this moment eleven people are standing in front of the channel's office. The eye-witnesses suggest that they are members of the *Right Sector*.

http://joinfo.ua/politic/873850_Telekanal-Inter-evakuiyuetsya-Praviy-sektor.html

- *Self-defence* activists beat *ENG* group of the *Ukraina* channel in Kiev. Kiev, 21.03.2014

On March 21, people's security of the building had a conflict with a *ENG* crew of the *Sobytiya* program in the Department of the Ministry of Agricultural Policy, the *112.ua* news agency reports, referring to the press-service of the *Ukraina* channel. The conflict resulted in a broken camera, torn clothes and injuries of the journalist and the cameraman.

Sobytiya's correspondent Kotova reports that their crew was evicted roughly from the department.

'They kicked me out. Not just pushed away, they kicked me out naturally. I landed on the asphalt near the building,' she said.

In his own turn the operator stressed, 'They took the camera first. Just took all the equipment away, I didn't know where it was. Then they started to push me away, twisted my hands and I saw that the camera was on my left. All the equipment lied about on the ground. They broke an expensive camera'.

After the incident the *Ukraina* channel turned to the police. The police promised to investigate the case and punish the guilty people, however, they presumed that it could have been not the *Self-defence* who had beaten the crew.

'Please, don't mix the real *Self-defence* which has existed and exists now, and those scoundrels who just try to look similar. We will take severe measures over them, they will be arrested,' says Arsen Avakov, the Minister of Internal Affairs.

Furthermore, they made apology for their colleagues' behavior and asked to take into consideration that today's incident is an exception to the rule.

<http://112.ua/politika/v-rezultate-konflikta-s-narodnoy-ohranoy-filiala-minagropolitiki-postradala-semochnaya-gruppa-sobytiy-38121.html>

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