



CENTER

FOR CIVIL

LIBERTIES

ANNUAL REPORT 2015

**ANNUAL REPORT
OF THE CENTER
FOR CIVIL
LIBERTIES 2015**

Kyiv, February 2016

CONTENT

1. Introduction	3
2. About the Center for Civil Liberties. Platforms in which CCL participates.....	5
3. Documentation of human rights violations:	6
- Documentation of human rights violations in Eastern Ukraine	7
- Documentation of human rights violations in the occupied Crimea.....	8
4. Education and training in the field of human rights.....	10
5. Monitoring the observance of the right to peaceful assembly and a fair trial.....	11
- About the public observation group "OZON"	11
- Monitoring of Maidan affairs	12
- Monitoring of peaceful assemblies	13
6. Assistance in carrying out reforms. Coordination of the platform of human rights organizations "Human Rights Daily Agenda"	15
7. International advocacy and cooperation.....	20
8. "Euromaidan SOS" initiative group.....	23
- Euromaidan SOS information products.....	24
- Euromaidan SOS volunteer award	25
- Campaign for the release of Ukrainian political prisoners in the Russian Federation "Let My People Go".....	27
9. Achievements of the Center for Civil Liberties in 2015	31
10. CCL team	32
11. Financial report	35

1. Introduction

We must continue to fight for human dignity. Even if there is nothing left but words and one's own example.

I represent the public initiative Euromaidan SOS, which united thousands of ordinary people for the legal protection of persecuted protest participants. Back then, people who were arrested, beaten, tortured, accused in fabricated criminal cases, and later disappeared and died passed through our hands every day.

For the second time in the last ten years, the Ukrainian people defended their choice to build a democratic state based on values shared with European countries. And he paid quite a high price for it.

After the fall of the authoritarian regime in Ukraine, in order to stop democratic transformations, Russia occupied Crimea and launched a hybrid war in Donbas. Murders, kidnappings, torture, sexual violence, using people as human shields, politically motivated persecution in the occupied territories - all this has become our reality.

Today, we collect the testimonies of the victims and document these violations for international justice. At the same time, we are fighting for the reform of the police, courts and prosecutor's office, so that no government in Ukraine would ever think of shooting unarmed demonstrators again.

And with that, I'd like to share a few lessons we've learned from these events:

1. In many countries of the world, human rights defenders do not just work to protect human rights. Human rights defenders fight for human rights every day. Often, it seems almost hopeless. But you still have to do your job honestly. And the result may appear unexpectedly.
2. When people obtained recognition of human rights and freedoms from the government, it often means only one thing in practice. No government, but only civil society, needs freedom of association, the right to a fair trial, and public control over the police. This means that human rights defenders simply chose new tasks for themselves. Therefore, civil society should become a full-fledged partner at the same level as the authorities for international organizations.
3. The so-called "crisis in Ukraine" is actually a direct reflection of the global crisis of the post-war world system. This crisis has a value dimension. The Universal Declaration of Human Rights is openly questioned. International human rights become secondary. Public activists, journalists, human rights defenders are persecuted and imprisoned in Azerbaijan, Russia, Kazakhstan, etc. There is a radical change in the ideology on which international organizations are based and have been working for decades.

There is a great temptation to avoid solving complex problems in the hope that they will go away on their own. The truth is that the problems are only growing. New gray areas with an uncertain status appear on the map. And it is not only about the future of the OSCE and the Helsinki Agreements. It is about a world where everything is so connected that only the spread of freedom and human rights makes it safe. Solving this crisis is our historical task.

We must continue to fight for human dignity. Even if there is nothing left but words and one's own example.

Oleksandra Matviychuk, Chairman of the Board of the Center for Civil Liberties, during the Democracy Defender Award-2016 awarding ceremony, February 24, 2016, Vienna.



2. Center for Civil Liberties (CCL) is a Ukrainian human rights non-governmental organization founded in 2007 with the aim of promoting and affirming the concept of human rights, democracy and solidarity in Ukraine and the OSCE region in order to recognize and preserve the values of human dignity.

CCL:

- Leading actor of the public sector in Ukraine.
- Influences the formation of public opinion and state policy.
- Develops social activism in Ukraine.
- Participates in international networks and solidarity actions for the promotion of human rights in the OSCE region.

Our values

- respect for human dignity
- freedom and human rights
- Rule of Law
- democracy
- solidarity
- disengagement
- non-discrimination

Platforms in which we participate:

Ukrainian:

Human rights agenda

Anti-discrimination coalition

Coalition of NGOs "For peace and justice in Donbas"

"Diversity Initiative"

"Crimea is Ukraine" platform

Resource Center for Helping IDPs

National platform of the Eastern Partnership

International:

International Platform "Civil Solidarity"

International Coalition "Initiative Group for Human Rights in Crimea"

Advisors:

Expert council under the Commissioner of the VRU on human rights

Expert council at the Human Rights Committee

Expert Council under the Ministry of Internal Affairs

Public council under the SSU

3. Documentation of human rights violations and crimes committed in the territories controlled by the DPR/LPR and occupied Crimea

During 2015, a team of documentaries of the Central Security Service documented evidence of human rights violations in Eastern Ukraine and occupied Crimea. These crimes occurred as a result of the military aggression launched by the Russian Federation against Ukraine in early 2014. Mobile monitoring and information gathering groups worked for documentation.

Documenting human rights violations is one of the priority areas of work of the CCL and includes the following goals:

- Collection of data on cases of human rights violations in Eastern Ukraine and Crimea and formation of the relevant evidence base;
- Raising awareness in Ukraine and the world about the human rights situation in Eastern Ukraine and Crimea;
- Development of methods for monitoring human rights violations, taking into account the peculiarities that exist in the conditions of armed conflict on the territory of Ukraine;
- Organization of a community of professional monitors and documenters in the field of human rights;
- Work with gaps in the legislation revealed in the course of documenting human rights violations. Namely: development of recommendations for improving legislation at the national and international levels and their advocacy;
- Preparation of a database for submitting information on international crimes to the International Criminal Court.

Documenting crimes and human rights violations in Eastern Ukraine

During 2015, there were 17 trips of mobile groups of documentarians to the East of Ukraine on the following topics:

- Shootings of the civilian population during the exit through the so-called "green corridors";
- Missing citizens of Ukraine in the occupied territories;
- Violation of the rights of civilians in the war zone;
- Citizens of Ukraine kidnapped on the territory of the Russian Federation;
- Places of illegal detention;
- Monitoring of investigations of international crimes by law enforcement agencies in the territories liberated by Ukraine;
- Persecution of the LGBT community by illegal armed groups.

Based on the collected data, the following reports were issued:

1. "When God becomes a weapon. Persecution for religious beliefs during the military conflict in eastern Ukraine."
<https://ccl.org.ua/reports/koly-boh-stae-zbroeyu-peresliduvannya-za-relihiynymy-perekonannyamy-v-hodi-vojennoho-konfliktu-na-shodi-ukrajiny/>
2. "A boiler for peaceful residents. Obstructing the evacuation of the civilian population during the armed conflict in the Donetsk and Luhansk regions."
<https://ccl.org.ua/reports/reports-report-trapped-civilans/>
3. "For the sake of one's name. Search for missing persons and identification of unidentified victims of the armed conflict in Donetsk and Luhansk regions."
https://ccl.org.ua/wp-content/uploads/2021/09/zvit_zaradi-imeni-odnogo_ccl-1.pdf
4. "Eastern Ukraine: civilians in the crossfire"
<https://ccl.org.ua/reports/zvit-tsyvilne-naselennya-pid-perehresnym-vohnem/>
5. "Survivors of Hell: Places of Illegal Imprisonment".
<https://ccl.org.ua/reports/zvit-ti-scho-perezhyly-peklo/>

More than 32 volunteers, who had previously received documentation training, were involved in the outings of mobile groups for documenting human rights violations in the East of Ukraine.



* Round table "Missing victims of the armed conflict: creation of a nationwide system of search and identification of missing military personnel and civilians in the ATO zone" November 17, 2015, Kyiv.

Work results:

More than 200 interviews with victims and their relatives have been documented.

6 thematic reports on international crimes and human rights violations have been prepared and published, 3 more reports are under preparation.

A round table was held with the participation of the SBU and the public on the problems of civilian evacuation. Based on the results, a working group of NGOs and the Security Service of Ukraine was created to develop changes to the civilian access system in Donbas.

Documentation of human rights violations in Crimea.

Since March 2014, the Central Security Service has been closely monitoring the human rights situation in the Crimea occupied by the Russian Federation. In 2015, 4 issues of the periodical "Crimea: Chronicles of Occupation" were published.

The periodical reports "Crimea: Chronicles of the Occupation" are a chronological description of the political persecution of public activists on the territory of the occupied Crimea. The pages of these reports describe the collected facts of political persecution carried out during March - December 2015 on the territory of the peninsula.

The results:

1. Four issues of "chronicles of the occupation":

Issue 1 CRIMEA: CHRONICLES OF THE OCCUPATION. Political persecution of civil society in occupied Crimea in March-May 2015

Issue 2 CRIMEA: CHRONICLES OF THE OCCUPATION. Political persecution of civil society in occupied Crimea in June 2015

Issue 3 CRIMEA: CHRONICLES OF THE OCCUPATION. Political persecution of civil society in occupied Crimea in July-August 2015

Issue 4 CRIMEA: CHRONICLES OF THE OCCUPATION. Political persecution of civil society in occupied Crimea in September - November 2015.

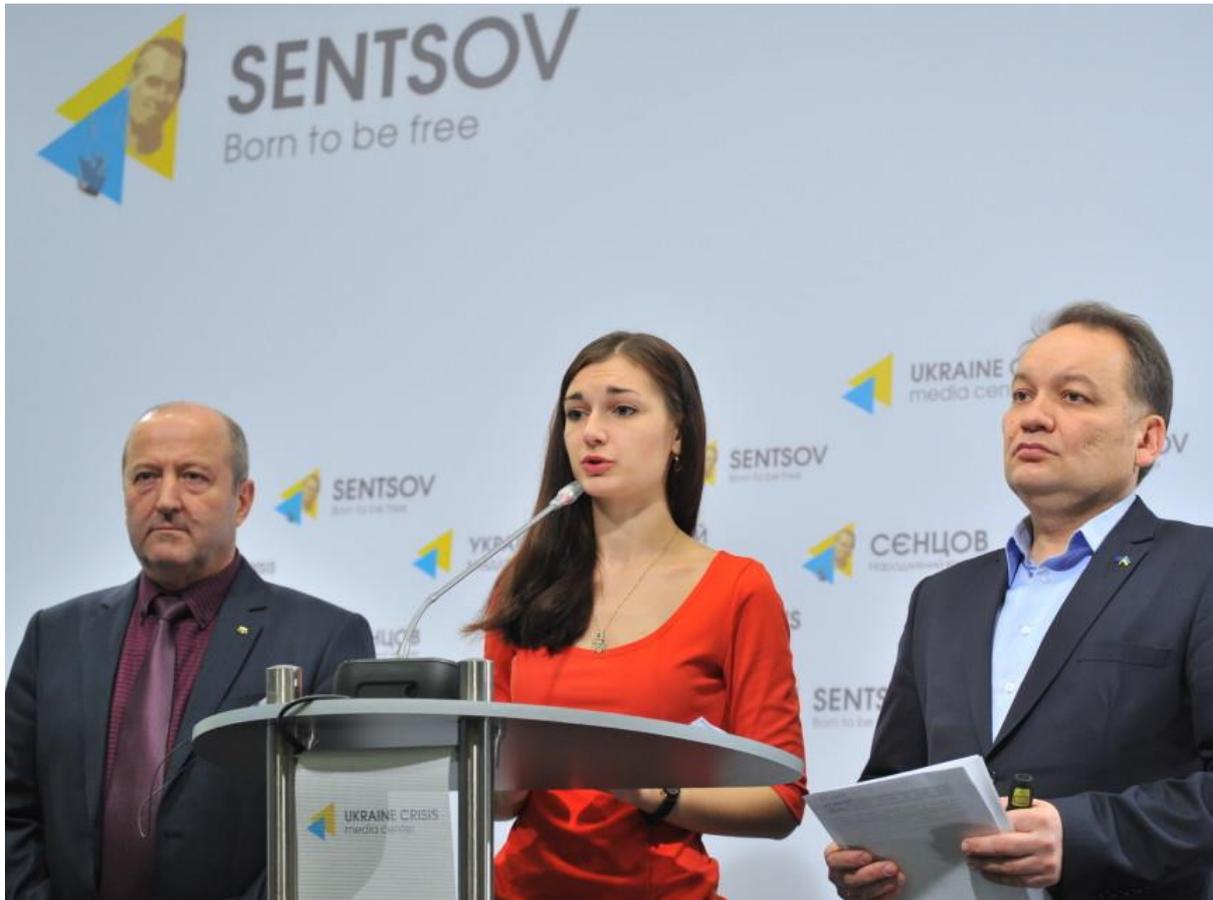
<https://ccl.org.ua/reports/krym-hroniky-okupacziyi-vypusk-4/>

2. 2 infographics on the situation in Crimea were developed and distributed among the mass media:

- “ Politically motivated persecution in the temporarily occupied Crimea ”.
- “ Disappeared in Crimea ”.

3. 4 press briefings were held, presenting the periodic editions of the report "Crimea: Chronicles of the Occupation".

4. 6 radio and television broadcasts in the national mass media regarding recorded violations of human rights in the occupied Crimea.



* Presentation of the fourth report "Crimea: chronicles of the occupation", December 10, 2015, Kyiv.

4. Education and training in the field of human rights.

Since its inception, the Center for Civil Liberties has chosen the educational mission as one of the most important in its activities. CCL strives to contribute to the development of civil society, where each member is a full-fledged, active, informed citizen. CCL also works towards expanding the human rights community by involving volunteers in its activities and popularizing public activism, using the tools of civic education.

In 2015:

1. 150 volunteers were trained in documenting human rights violations and international crimes, including military and 50 new volunteers became members of monitoring and analytical groups
2. 12 volunteers completed distance learning on International Humanitarian Law
3. 30 Russian and 30 Ukrainian human rights organizations, within the framework of a joint discussion platform, exchanged experience in documenting human rights violations in the territories of military conflicts, using the example of monitoring missions in the Chechen Republic

4. one out-of-town advocacy and educational program was carried out to Serbia and Croatia, in which the documentaries of the CCL took part



*action of international solidarity with the civil society of Belarus, August 4, 2015

5. Monitoring the observance of the right to peaceful assembly and a fair trial

About the public monitoring group "OZON"

One of the important directions of the work of the CCL is the monitoring of ensuring the right to peaceful assembly and a fair trial.

Public observation group "OZON" – a voluntary association of active citizens, first of all, public activists, lawyers, journalists, who are aware of the importance of high-quality public control over state bodies, as well as over key processes that take place on the line of contact between society and the state or man and the state, in particular, during peaceful meetings and court proceedings. Public observers are an independent party, they always remain outside the process.

Based on the results of its observations, "OZON" publishes conclusions and provides recommendations.

OZON community:

- Monitors peaceful assemblies and court activities in Ukraine;
- Involves volunteers and public activists in his work;

- Promotes public control as a tool of democracy;
- Participates in international monitoring missions;
- Monitors the decisions of the Temporary Special Commission for the Verification of Judges of General Jurisdiction in the Higher Council of Justice of Ukraine.



* public presentation of the report of human rights organizations "Events under the parliament on August 31, 2015 through the lens of human rights" on October 29, 2015, "Ukrinform", Kyiv.

Monitoring of Maidan affairs

Since December 2013, representatives of the public monitoring group "OZON" have been conducting independent public monitoring of court cases brought against the participants of the Revolution of Dignity.

During the observation of court proceedings, "OZON" observers adhere to the following principles:

- Non-interference. Civil observers do not interfere in the justice process.
- Objectivity. Public observers do not favor either side of the process.
- The public. Public observers carry out their activities openly, the observation is carried out in branded vests "OZON".

Volunteers of the group monitored the observance of such components of the right to a fair trial in Ukraine:

1. The right to a hearing by a competent, independent and impartial court established by law.
2. The right to a public trial.
3. The right to the presumption of innocence.
4. The right not to testify against oneself.
5. Information about rights during the court session.
6. Fair judicial procedure.
7. The right to defense.

Trials monitored in 2015:

- "Dispersal of the "student Euromaidan" on November 30, 2013 in Kyiv"
- "Car run to Mezhihirya on December 29, 2013"
- "Torture against the Cossack Mykhailo Havrylyuk"
- "The murder of Vyacheslav Veremiy, a journalist of the newspaper "Vesti""
- "Mass shooting of protesters on February 20, 2014 in Kyiv"

Monitoring of peaceful assemblies

The right to organize, conduct and participate in peaceful assemblies is a fundamental right of a citizen of a legal state. The public monitoring group "OZON" has been monitoring the observance of this right in Ukraine for the third year.

During 2015, dozens of peaceful actions were observed, mostly in Kyiv. As a result of these observations, problems were identified in ensuring the right to peaceful assembly. For the most part, this concerned issues of organizing the protection of peaceful gatherings and the performance of law enforcement functions by the state's power structures.

One of the most important gatherings from the point of view of human rights is the annual Equality March, which demonstrates the level of freedom of peaceful assembly and tolerance for diversity in society.

In 2015, the Equality March took place in Kyiv on June 6. The monitoring group "OZON" watched the progress of the March. In the actions of law enforcement agencies, both positive and negative practices in ensuring the protection of the participants of the action were recorded. 8 public observers took part in monitoring the progress of the Equality March.



Results of the activities of the public monitoring group "OZON" in 2015:

- 180 volunteers took part in 11 educational and educational events about public surveillance in Ukraine, held in Kyiv, Odesa, Kharkiv, Sumy and Dnipropetrovsk).
- 1 training abroad was organized for "OZON" volunteers (Czech Republic, CEELI Institute, Prague).
- 4 online master classes on the peculiarities of court monitoring were held, in which about 100 public activists participated
- the telethon "Peaceful gatherings in Ukraine today" was organized jointly with UkrlifeTV and the Kyiv House of Human Rights
- 47 reports and analytical collections were issued based on the results of observing peaceful assemblies and court proceedings
- sent 84 requests for obtaining public information and appeals to courts, judicial authorities, internal affairs bodies and the prosecutor's office with conclusions and recommendations based on the results of the conducted monitoring.
- 5 press conferences and public discussions were held based on the detected violations of the right to peaceful assembly and a fair trial.



*October 17-18 training "When you are not heard: how to counteract discrimination using the methods of human rights activism"

6. Assistance in carrying out reforms. Coordination of the platform of human rights organizations "Human Rights Agenda".

One of the important directions of the work of the CCL is assistance in the implementation of reforms in connection with the obligations that Ukraine has undertaken on the way to European integration, as well as regarding ensuring the compliance of legislation with human rights standards. In this regard, the "Human Rights Protection Agenda" platform was created on the initiative of the Central Government.

Platform "Human Rights Agenda" – an informal coalition of human rights organizations working in the field of monitoring, analysis and development of legislation in accordance with international standards of human rights and fundamental freedoms (hereinafter - HRA). The purpose of the platform is the real affirmation of the principle "Human rights above all!" at the highest state level.

The HRA includes the following human rights organizations and initiatives:

- v Center for Civil Liberties,
- v Ukrainian Helsinki Union for Human Rights,

- v Kharkiv human rights group,
- v Amnesty International in Ukraine,
- v Human Rights Information Center,
- v Center for Law Enforcement Research,
- v "Euromaidan SOS" initiative,
- v House of Human Rights in Kyiv,
- v Center "Social Action",
- v Project "Without borders".

During 2015, HRA experts worked on the following areas of improving the legislation:

- - Protection of the rights of internally displaced persons and rule-making related to the settlement of the situation in the occupied Crimea.
- - Ratification of the Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court and bringing Ukrainian legislation into line with the standards of international humanitarian law.
- - Reform of law enforcement agencies.
- - Constitutional reform.
- - Development of the anti-discrimination component in Ukrainian legislation.

Performance indicators:

- 1) During 2015, 15 meetings of HRA working groups were held in various areas of work.
- 2) Contact was established with more than 250 people's deputies of the Verkhovna Rada of Ukraine
- 3) A mailing list has been established for the communication of HRA and people's deputies on issues related to legislation in the field of human rights
- 4) 20 open appeals to representatives of state authorities regarding the elimination of shortcomings in the legislation and bringing it into line with human rights standards have been published.
- 5) 15 expert opinions of HRA regarding important legislative initiatives in the field of human rights were published.
- 6) 5 infographics have been developed regarding the current problems of reforming in the field of human rights.

Що означає «Януковича & Ко в Гаагу?»



Суд в Гаазі – це Міжнародний кримінальний суд (МКС), який здійснює переслідування осіб, відповідальних за геноцид, воєнні злочини і злочини проти людяності.
Існує з липня 2002 року.



МКС порушує кримінальну справу тоді, коли країна не бажає або не здатна провести розслідування чи порушити кримінальне провадження належним чином.



МКС діє на основі Римського статуту. Дія МКС поширюється лише на ті країни, які ратифікували (затвердили) Римський статут.



Крок до ратифікації - внести до Конституції України одне речення. (Прийняти законопроект №1788).



Дія МКС поширюється на 122 країни світу, але не на Україну, тому що Римський статут досі не ратифіковано.

7) 5 international events were held in the Ukrainian parliament. International experts and parliamentarians of foreign countries, people's deputies of Ukraine, representatives of state authorities and the public were involved in these events. Including:

1. Inter-parliamentary seminar: "The International Criminal Court and the Protection of the Civilian Population"
2. Round table: "Mechanisms for ensuring the cooperation of national and international bodies in the investigation of war crimes and crimes against humanity, as well as their trial." October 15, 2015



* Round table "Models of cooperation of national and international bodies regarding the investigation of international crimes, as well as their trial" October 15, 2015, VRU, Kyiv.

3. Interparliamentary seminar: "The International Criminal Court and Ukraine"

4. Interparliamentary seminar: "The International Criminal Court: Georgia's experience"

5. Round table: "Ratification of the Rome Statute and accession of Ukraine to the International Criminal Court".



* interparliamentary seminar on exchange of experience regarding the International Criminal Court, VRU, June 18-19, 2015

8) 10 events were held to support important legislative human rights initiatives, including peaceful demonstrations, press conferences, etc. In particular, the action under the walls of the Verkhovna Rada of Ukraine with the demand to introduce draft law 2166 for consideration by the parliament and the Euromaidan SOS "Never again!" action regarding the ratification of the Rome Statute.

Successes of HRA in working with the authorities:

- At the request of HRA experts, a working group was created to amend the Procedure for entering and exiting the temporarily occupied territory of Ukraine No. 367 of the Ministry of Justice of Ukraine, dated June 4, 2015.
- HRA experts joined the Expert Council on Human Rights at the VRU Committee on Human Rights, National Minorities and International Relations
- 25 international experts, including parliamentarians from Austria, Estonia, Sweden, Great Britain, Germany, Portugal, Poland, and the Netherlands were involved in providing expert support to Ukraine in the field of reforms.
- Some proposals of human rights defenders to the Law of Ukraine "On the National Police" have been taken into account.
- Amendments were made to the resolution of the Cabinet of Ministers of Ukraine regarding the "Procedure of entry into and exit from the temporarily occupied territory of Ukraine."

- An anti-discrimination amendment to the Labor Code of November 12, 2015 was adopted
- The Draft Law of Ukraine "On Amendments to Some Laws of Ukraine Regarding Strengthening Guarantees of Respecting the Rights and Freedoms of Internally Displaced Persons" was developed.

7. International advocacy and cooperation.

The Center for Civil Liberties systematically works to resolve issues of human rights violations by appearing on international platforms and by constantly informing the structures of the Council of Europe, the United Nations and the OSCE about the situation with human rights in Ukraine.

During 2015, the CCL took part in such events with relevant performances.

Meeting of the Parliamentary Assembly of the Council of Europe (Strasbourg). The topic of the speech: violation of human rights in Crimea and during the conflict in Donbas





* June 2015, speech at the PACE meeting "Territory of lawlessness in Donbas: Russia's responsibility".



* Street action under the walls of the Council of Europe, regarding political prisoners as a result of the aggression of the Russian Federation. Strasbourg, summer 2015

Participation in the additional OSCE meeting on the human dimension (Vienna). The topic of the speech was the presentation of the report "When God Becomes a Weapon: Religious Persecution in Donbas", June 2-3, 2015.

Participation in the event regarding the presentation of the OSCE report (Warsaw). The topic of the speeches: analysis of the state of investigation of crimes committed during the Maidan.

Participation in the forum "Forum For decision makers" (Tutzing, Bavaria). The topic of the speeches: opposition to Russian propaganda and the activities of NGOs after the Revolution of Dignity.

Debriefing on the possibility of applying the practice of the International Criminal Court to the armed conflict in Ukraine. (Zagreb, Croatia). The topic of the speeches: the possibilities of applying the practice of the International Criminal Court to the armed conflict in Ukraine.



** Debriefing on the possibility of applying the practice of the International Criminal Court to the armed conflict in Ukraine (Zagreb, Croatia). May 12, 2015*

UN Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination Against Women (UN Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination Against Women - CEDAW). The topic of the speeches: the state of observance of women's rights in Donbas.

An event within the framework of the meeting on the human dimension of the OSCE. The speech of Yuriy Yatsenko, a prisoner of the Kremlin released as part of the #Letmypeoplego campaign. September 22, 2015

Information session for the diplomatic corps "Human rights in the East of Ukraine: hostages, torture and extrajudicial executions". It was organized by the Center for Social Security and took place in Kyiv on February 13, 2015.

8. Initiative group "Euromaidan SOS"

Euromaidan SOS is a community of volunteers in all regions of Ukraine and beyond, which is coordinated by the CCL.

Euromaidan SOS was formed in response to the illegal dispersal of a peaceful demonstration and the beating of students on Independence Square on November 30, 2013. Through the work of the Euromaidan SOS hotline, hundreds of facts about beatings, torture, illegal arrests, missing and dead Euromaidan participants in Kyiv and the regions were recorded.

Subsequently, the initiative began work aimed at recording human rights violations in Crimea and Donbas, launched the campaign for the release of Ukrainian political prisoners "Let My People Go", joined the advocacy of the ratification of the Rome Statute.

One of the most influential platforms for informing and gathering information during the Revolution of Dignity was the Euromaidan SOS Facebook page, which had more than a hundred thousand subscribers.

The Euromaidan SOS page remains an important information platform regarding the situation with human rights and everything related to public and volunteer movements.

As of December 31, 2015, the Euromaidan SOS page has: **123,865 subscribers**. Average number of posts per day: 60,000-85,000 users.

Euromaidan SOS information products:

- The film "Euromaidan SOS. The right to dignity".

"Euromaidan SOS. The right to dignity" is a story about how the first large-scale volunteer initiative of Ukraine developed. About how during the Revolution of Dignity people came together to protect the rights of other people. This is a film about mutual aid and what motivates people to volunteer. The idea of creating the tape belongs to the director Svitlana Lishchynska, and other volunteers joined in its implementation: operators and a production studio [ActivVision](#).

Link to the movie <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=JpMSvDJg0OI>



- The film "Rejection. Battle for Ukraine"

This film is dedicated to the events in the Donetsk and Luhansk regions in the spring of 2014, the "shaking" of Donbas. During the making of the film, interviews were recorded with more than 50 witnesses, heroes, victims, victims of the "Russian Spring" events in Donbas.

The film is the result of cooperation between the Kyiv House of Human Rights, the Center for Civil Liberties, the Internet channel Uklife.tv and the Euromaidan SOS initiative. The director of the film is Lyudmila Nemyrya. The author of the idea is Maria Tomak



Euromaidan SOS volunteer award

Every year, after the Revolution of Dignity, on November 30, "Euromaidan SOS" celebrates "ordinary people who do extraordinary things." Large-scale volunteer resistance became the defining response of civil society to the authorities' attempts to curtail European integration and build a dictatorship, as well as to challenges related to the occupation of Crimea and military operations in Donbas. Ordinary people have united in hundreds of horizontal initiatives that help the army, support the displaced, care for the wounded, document war crimes and do many other useful things.

Since 2014, Euromaidan SOS has been gathering volunteers from all over Ukraine for the Euromaidan SOS Volunteer Award ceremony. In 2015, more than 80 volunteers from Ukraine and abroad who work every day for the good of society were nominated for the award.

In 2015, they became the winners of the award:

Oleksandr Chalapchii is a veteran who, despite his physical limitations (lost both legs), helps other wounded soldiers.



Yaroslav Zhilkin - coordinator of the "Black Tulip" mission.
Maria Berlinska is the founder of the Air Intelligence Support Center.



Yevgenia Zakrevska is a lawyer for the families of the Heavenly Hundred and persons who suffered as a result of the annexation of Crimea and Russian armed aggression in the East of Ukraine.





Information campaign #LetMyPeopleGo

The **LetMyPeopleGo** campaign is an information and advocacy project launched in April 2015 as an initiative of Euromaidan SOS. The campaign is aimed at the release of illegally detained Ukrainian citizens on the territory of Russia and occupied Crimea for political reasons.



As of 2015, 13 Ukrainian citizens remain in prisons in the Russian Federation and another 12 in occupied Crimea. Most of them were subjected to severe torture. All political prisoners are deprived of the right to independent legal and consular protection, as well as to a fair trial.

The purpose of the campaign:

achieve the release of 25 illegally detained citizens of Ukraine, and in the short term - achieve compliance with their fundamental rights.

They joined the campaign as partners:

- v Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Ukraine
- v Human rights commissioner of the Verkhovna Rada of Ukraine
- v "Open Dialogue" Foundation
- v International humanitarian organization "Man in Distress"
- v "Solidarity Committee" initiative
- v "Euromaidan Press" information platform
- v Ukrainian Helsinki Union for Human Rights
- v Kharkiv Human Rights Protection Group
- v Documentary film festival "Docudays UA"

v Platform of cultural initiatives "Isolation"

v Crimean Tatar Resource Center

- During 2015, the campaign carried out:
- 10 public actions and 15 press conferences to draw the attention of Ukrainian and international mass media to the problem of Ukrainian political prisoners.
- Designed and printed branded T-shirts for the campaign. Several hundred T-shirts were distributed.

To strengthen international support, the campaign was presented at key international platforms, including the Council of Europe, OSCE, European Parliament, UN, PACE, as well as in the framework of numerous personal meetings with political figures in the USA and various EU countries.



* Open Air concert as part of the #LetMyPeopleGo campaign, June 20, 2015. Photo of UP.

Campaign results:

- The efforts of five authorized bodies of Ukraine - the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, the Ministry of Internal Affairs, the GPU, the Security Service of Ukraine and the Office of the Ombudsman for the release of illegally detained Ukrainians - have been achieved.
- Provided legal support to detained citizens of Ukraine: More than \$30,000 was collected to pay for the work of defense lawyers for accused Ukrainians.

- Thanks to the advocacy efforts of the campaign, 7 Russian lawyers representing the interests of Ukrainian citizens were able to visit Ukraine to collect evidence, participate in interdepartmental meetings, etc. in order to strengthen the defense positions.

Achievements of the Center for Civil Liberties in 2015

Thanks to the efforts of the international advocacy of the CCL, the following goals were achieved:

1. The data documented by the Central Statistical Office formed the basis of two reports of PACE special rapporteurs on the topic of missing persons missing in Donbas.
2. PACE adopted a separate Resolution dated June 25, 2015 "Disappearing persons during the conflict in Ukraine". This document is important in itself - it contains detailed recommendations to the Ukrainian authorities regarding the effective search for missing persons. And also, essential demands to the Russian Federation and the separatist groups that control the occupied territories in the Donetsk and Luhansk regions.
3. The International Red Cross gained access to the collection of DNA analyzes in the territories controlled by the so-called DPR and LPR and began to transfer the results to the general DNA database of Ukraine.
4. The PACE adopted a resolution on postponing the return of voting rights to the Russian delegation dated January 28, 2015.
5. The PACE Committee on Migration of Refugees and Displaced Persons decided to initiate a report to study the situation with civilian hostages in Donbas.
6. Visit of a PACE member to Eastern Ukraine. For the first time since the beginning of the conflict in the East, a PACE member came to Ukraine for the purpose of an international mission. Severodonetsk, to talk with prisoners of illegal armed formations of the LPR/DPR and see their places of detention.
7. Amendments were made to the resolution of the Cabinet of Ministers of Ukraine regarding the "Procedure of entry into and exit from the temporarily occupied territory of Ukraine."
8. Political prisoners Yuriy Yatsenko and Bohdan Yarychevskyi were released. Thanks to the concerted efforts of the campaign, the work of lawyers and the courage of detained Ukrainians, Yuriy Yatsenko and Bohdan Yarychevskyi were released.



* visit of Neila Kleinenberg, member of PACE (Latvia), Severodonetsk. The photo shows the process of communication with a Russian prisoner

The team of the Center for Civil Liberties

Oleksandra Matviychuk, head of the organization



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*** a team from the Center for Civil Liberties and an intern from France Léa Ronzaud**

FINANCIAL REPORT FOR 2015

INCOME OF CCL IN 2015

7,395,497 UAH,

including:

The European Commission 1,500,668 UAH

National Fund for Promotion of Democracy 823,872 UAH

Embassy of the Kingdom of the Netherlands in Kyiv 102,000 UAH

The European Fund for the Promotion of Democracy 1,048,930 UAH

The Dutch Helsinki Committee 720,072 UAH

UN Development Program in Ukraine 852,652 UAH

International Renaissance Fund 195,000 UAH

The Fund of Friends of the Helsinki Movement 829,339 UAH

US Embassy in Kyiv 549,672 UAH

The legal program of the US Agency for International Development in Ukraine is

314,268 UAH

Council of Europe 31,612 UAH

Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Croatia 180,990 UAH

Prize of the Parliament of Norway 146,422 UAH

"Alliance KM" company 100,000 UAH

EXPENDITURES OF 2015

7,184,217 UAH, including:

Travel of employees and volunteers 349,067 UAH

Conferences, seminars, other events 1,846,667 UAH

Communication (maintenance and development of websites, social networks, videos, design, visualization, etc.) 780,913 UAH

Fees of experts, trainers, authors, researchers, etc. 273,625 UAH

Publications 90,538 UAH

Translations 60,030 UAH

Staff salaries (including taxes, pension and other mandatory charges) 2,872,777 UAH

Office expenses (including rent, communication, stationery and other office expenses) 864,750 UAH

Equipment 45,851 UAH

7,184,218 UAH