

Working session 14

**THE HUMAN RIGHTS CENTER OF AZERBAIJAN
CONCERNED ON CASE OF STANISLAW DMITRIEVSKY**

The Human Rights Center of Azerbaijan (HRCA) was informed that Ministry of Interior of Russian Federation is found "signs of criminal activities under article 146 part 2 of the Russian Criminal Code" in actions of Stanislav Dmitrievskiy, a consultant of the Nizhny Novgorod Foundation to Promote Tolerance. The accusation is related with utilization of the counterfeit computer software, the common phenomenon in the CIS countries. The documents have been submitted to the prosecutor's office of Nizhny Novgorod Region with the request to initiate a new criminal case. The conclusion was made as a result of the inspection of the Foundation that the police carried on 29 August. The official text dated with 11 September was received only on 2 October.

On 29-30 August, the inspections of financial, entrepreneurial, business activities were carried out in offices of Nizhny Novgorod Foundation to Promote Tolerance, Nizhny Novgorod edition of the Novaya Gazeta and Nizhny Novgorod Human Rights Alliance. All this entities are well-known on their criticism towards the Russian authorities. The police seized computers in the offices of the Foundation and the Novaya Gazeta and as far as we know did not return them till now.

In 2006, Stanislav Dmitrievskiy was taken to criminal accountability for the decision to re-publish peace appeals by two leaders of self-proclaimed "Chechen Republic of Ichkeria" Aslan Maskhadov and Akhmed Zakaev. That happened in the country tolerating hate speeches against the "persons of Caucasian origin", where thousands "skinheads" enjoy impunity for physical attacks for migrants and open promotion of neo-Nazi ideas. So, Dmitrievskiy was sentenced to two years of suspended term with four years on probation. Thus, additionally to the possible new punishment under Article 146, Dmitrievskiy is threatened with up to four years of camp.

There is well-based suspicion that Dmitrievskiy persecuted again because of his active participation in the Other Russia coalition as well as with the current judicial project "The International Tribunal on Chechnya." developed now under the leadership of Dmitrievskiy. The FSB has got access to all the developed chapters of the study with the seizure of the computers in the office of Nizhny Novgorod Foundation to Promote Tolerance.

On 30 September 2007 Dmitrievskiy became one of the candidates to the election to the Russian State Duma at the Other Russia conference that was held in Moscow.

The HRCA considers the criminal accusations against Mr. Dmitrievskiy as the new method of suppression of freedom of expression which is especially dangerous because of simple copying in any CIS countries.

The HRCA requests the OSCE to intervene into the situation which is obviously contrary to the basic principles of the organization.

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