

DUBLIN Front Line Defenders – Head Office First Floor, Avoca Court Temple Road, Blackrock Co. Dublin, A94 R7W3, Ireland

info@frontlinedefenders.org www.frontlinedefenders.org

phone +353 1 212 3750 fax +353 1 233 8695 BRUSSELS Front Line Defenders – EU Office Square Marie-Louise 72

1000 Brussels Belgium euoffice@frontlinedefenders.org

www.frontlinedefenders.org

phone +32 2 230 9383 fax +32 2 230 0028

3 August 2023

Crimea (Ukraine): Human rights defender Kulamet Ibraimov parents' house raided

On 2 August 2023, Crimean Tatar human rights defender and civic journalist **Kulamet Ibraimov** parents' house in the village of Buyuk-Onlar in Russian-occupied Crimea was raided and the human rights defender's parents were intimidated by representatives of the Russian Centre for Countering Extremism. The raid took place only one day after Kulamet Ibraimov's release from an arbitrary 5-day administrative arrest.

<u>Kulamet Ibraimov</u> is a human rights defender, member of Crimean Solidarity and a civic journalist with the Russian media outlet Grani.Ru, who covers politically-motivated trials in Russian-occupied Crimea. The human rights movement Crimean Solidarity was created on 9 April 2016 as an informal and peaceful human rights organisation to protect victims of repression on ethnic, religious and political grounds in Russian-occupied Crimea from the Crimean Tatar and other indigenous communities. Members of the organisation conduct monitoring and media coverage of trials related to politically-motivated cases in Crimea and provide legal and other kinds of support to the victims of persecution and their family members.

On 2 August 2023, 10 unknown armed individuals in unmarked black uniforms raided the house of Kulamet Ibraimov's parents. Those carrying out the raid searched the family library and other belongings in the house and shed. Crimean Solidarity reported that the human rights defender's parents were asked about Kulamet Ibraimov's whereabouts, while hearing threats that "If he doesn't stop his human rights activities, it would end badly." The search lasted for about an hour. It was disclosed during the raid that it was being conducted by the Russian Centre for Countering Extremism, but the individuals left without drawing up any reports. The raid took place only one day after the release of Kulamet Ibraimov from five days in administrative detention. Crimean Solidarity also reported the human rights defender's mother came to meet him the evening of his release, near the detention centre, and that Kulamet Ibraimov's residency was still registered at his parents' address.

Human rights defender Kulamet Ibraimov was one of 13 people who <u>were arbitrarily detained</u> on 27 July 2023. He was arrested after coming to the Supreme Court of Russian-occupied Crimea to attend and conduct media coverage of the appeal trial in the case of Nariman Dzhelal and the Akhtemov brothers. Kulamet Ibraimov was charged with an administrative offence under Article 20.2.2 of the Russian Code of Administrative Offences and sentenced to five days of administrative arrest, which ended on 1 August 2023.

Previously, on 25 January 2023, the human rights defender was arrested in front of the Kyivskyi district court in Simferopol and jailed for 12 days after representatives from the Russian Centre for Countering Extremism and Rosgvardiya fighters, acting on their command, carried out mass detentions of Crimean Tatars who came to the court hearings.

Front Line Defenders is deeply concerned at the judicial harrasment of the Crimean Tatar human rights defender and journalist Kulamet Ibraimov and the targeting and intimidation of his family members. Front Line Defenders considers this attacks are reprisals for his peaceful and legitimate human rights work on documenting and informing about human rights violations committed by the Russian Federation in the occupied territory.

Front Line Defenders Board of Directors Denis O'Brien, Jim Conway, Roja Fazaeli, Maria Mulcahy, Kieran Mulvey, Mary Jane Real (Philippines), David Sykes, Arnold Tsunga (Zimbabwe), Verónica Vidal (Uruguay) Front Line, The International Foundation for the Protection of Human Rights

Defenders trading as Front Line Defenders, is registered in Ireland as a company

limited by guarantee and not having a share capital. Registered Office: First Floor,

Front Line Defenders urges the authorities of the Russian Federation to:

- 1. Cease all persecution and targeting of human rights defender Kulamet Ibraimov and his family for his legitimate and peaceful journalistic and human rights work;
- 2. Take all necessary measures to ensure the physical and psychological security and integrity of Kulamet Ibraimov and his family members;
- 3. Guarantee in all circumstances that all human rights defenders in the territory under defacto control of the Russian Federation are able to carry out their legitimate human rights activities without fear of reprisal and free from all restrictions.

