

Danger implementation Ukrainian scenario in Latvia

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The main mission of the OSCE is to prevent the development of military conflicts in Europe. The most dangerous in Europe at the moment is the conflict in Ukraine. In this country in the month of February of this year came to power radical nationalist forces that have been forced to hold the line on Ukrainisation Russian population. Was downgraded status of the Russian language, there was a threat of the ban in schools teaching children in their native language , as the state was adopted radical ideology of Ukrainian nationalism.

In response, the Russian population of South-Eastern regions of Ukraine chose their own government officials who have been to protect their national interests. Official Kiev has not taken this option and used force to suppress the discontent of the Russian population. In response, in Ukraine began to develop Russian national liberation movement and was proclaimed an independent republic Novorossia. The armed conflict between the parties took a very severe forms, it is now dying and suffering civilians, created millions of refugees. Ukrainian officials have called the insurgent terrorists. But what about the terrorists, we can speak in the light of yesterday appeared in the media about the discovery of a mass grave near Donetsk Ukrainian power structures by shooting civilians? Many of the victims found linked hands, their bodies show signs of brutal torture, and some beheaded corpses. It is obvious that we are dealing with the facts of ethnic cleansing carried out by Ukrainian authorities in relation to its Russian population. Reveal the facts demand a thorough investigation and evaluation on the part of the OSCE. I propose to include this proposal in the resolution session.

OSCE faces a possible encounter with the new ethno-political conflict, now in Latvia, which is completely analogous to the conflict that we see in the Ukraine. Judge that we allow the results of two comparative sociological surveys, which led me the Institute of European Studies held in November 2010 in Latvia and in June 2014 in Ukraine. Survey results indicate that the degree of tension between the Latvians and Russian in Latvia, no less than the degree of tension between the Ukrainians and Russian in Ukraine. In both cases, the main source of conflict is the radical actions of ruling elites in relation to their other ethnic populations.

I will mention some facts that indicate extremely dangerous actions of the Latvian authorities.

Only that the Latvian Parliament adopted the preamble to the constitution which declared that Latvia is a state in which the Latvians have exclusive rights. This preamble legalizes violations of rights of the Russian population. For example, 15% of the population, according to Russian ethnic origin, is non-citizens. They have a limit of 60 legal positions, ranging from the right to participate in elections and ending with the right to work notaries. Now these infringement sanctified preamble of the constitution.

The country's authorities have declared that in the autumn of this year, Russian will have no right to teach their children to schools in their native language. Only vigorous protests of the Russian population suspended for the duration of this assimilation "reform", but did not cancel it.

Turned reprisals against those who use the Russian language on the job - they are subjected to heavy fines and even fired from their jobs.

Latvian soldiers work out methods of internment other ethnic population in the event of a conflict; work out methods of doing the fighting in the city.

In the Latvian media is a massive anti-Russian campaign, which was initiated by government. In our country, closed TV channels that broadcast in Russian, plan to close a number of Russian radio stations.

Against the activists of the Russian movement to prosecute.

And when you start to speak publicly about the dangers of such actions by the authorities you are summoned to the intelligence. Author of the report, such as five hours of questioning in the Security Police for what he dared to give the Norwegian television interview in which he expressed concerns about the fate of Russian in Latvia.

We can say that the Latvian authorities have tightened the line at the assimilation of the Russian population and preparing for possible protests forced suppression of them. To any contact with representatives of the Russian community, including the democratically elected Parliament of unrepresented, the nationalist government of the country does not go.

OSCE should pay particular attention to the situation in Latvia and to prevent the development of events in it in Ukrainian scenario.