Working sessioon 6

Report NGO Russian School of Estonia

\*\*\*\*\*\*

In Estonia a few days ago incedent happened: Estonian Internal Security Service etained a major "spy" in the general staff of the Estonian army. According to their version, he sold information to Russia for 5 years.

We do not know whether he is guilty or not. The investigation is still going on. The question is different. This suspect is Russian by nationality. And there are no more Russian majors in the Estonian army. He's the only one.

This incident greatly agitated our politicians.

For the past few years, the ultra-right-wing party, which propagates racist ideas, is gaining popularity in Estonia. Chairman of the party Mart Helme after this incident with the major called the Russian minority a "cancer tumor" on the body of Estonia, and the youth wing of this party "Blue Awakening" called to clean the Estonian army from non-Estonians.

Let me remind you that the national minorities in Estonia are about 38% of the population.

According to the statistics of the Ministry of Finance

(<u>https://www.rahandusministeerium.ee/et/system/files\_force/document\_files/atar\_20</u> 17.pdf?download=1) only 2,4 % of non-Estonians work in Estonian ministries. (ex. in

the Ministry of Defense 0%).

Generally, there is nothing to clean.

This area is already national minorities free!

The ultra-nationalist rhetoric of EKRE in Estonia is very popular right now, because this party voices what is usually concealed.

Many people believe this party is the most honest in Estonia and predicts victory in the next elections.

I believe there is no place in Estonia for discrimination on the basis of nationality and this situation needs to be corrected, not aggravated by nationalist attacks.

Thank you for attention!

Alisa Blintsova Member of Council NGO Russian School of Estonia