Institute of European studies Latvia

On the facts of the persecution for their beliefs in Latvia

In his speech, I want to draw the attention of the OSCE leadership to the facts of the persecution of people for their beliefs in Latvia. For clarity, give examples of persecution, which personally encountered.

Last year, I was interviewed by Norwegian television, in which he expressed his disagreement with the fact that the Latvian military work out at the site in Adazi methods of dealing with conditional rebels in the cities of the country are preparing to use against them the same measures as the Ukrainian authorities to apply to the civilian population in the Donbass. I had feared that it would be reprisals against members of the Russian community in the country.

For this presentation, I was summoned to the Security Police. There I was charged with spreading false information. However, I showed text of the Press Secretary of the Ministry of Defence. I still strongly recommended to stop to speak on this topic. I asked the reason why I should give up their constitutional right to express their opinion about certain events, especially since I'm representing the interests of Russian country - selected Speaker of the Parliament of unrepresented.

Then they showed me the statement, which was written in a security police Latvian Minister of Defence. It turned out that the defense minister was fighting with the help of law enforcement agencies with the spread of views on what was happening in his department. Unlawfully, because then the country could not be used army troops against civilians.

During an interview with Norwegian TV against me I was taken in the Latvian media someone about three dozen articles. In this article I present enemy of the state. Security police recognized this fact in its annual report and then followed by a series of publications in the Latvian media, which, in my opinion, are working closely with the political police. Once again I was put in the role of the enemy of the Latvian state.

Then on the street five times I was approached by complete strangers and demanded that I was removed from the country because I am against its security. Two young men threatened to kill me. And all this only because I publicly spoke to foreign media with a personal opinion about the possible consequences of military training to the Latvian military operations against the Latvian Russian.

It is one of dozens of examples of restrictions on the right to freedom of thought and belief, freedom of speech in Latvia.

OSCE intended to act in defense of these fundamental rights, and I ask the leadership of the organization on behalf of the Russian Latvia return to the monitoring of human rights in our country.

Yes, I forgot to mention. Last Defense Minister, who wrote me a statement in the Security Police Raymond Vejonis. Now he holds the post of the president of Latvia.

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