

A watercolor painting of a coastal landscape. In the foreground, there are several tall, dark green cypress-like trees on a rocky, yellowish-brown cliffside. To the right, a blue body of water stretches towards the horizon. In the background, there are rolling hills in shades of orange, pink, and purple under a pale, hazy sky. The overall style is soft and painterly.

*The Crimean*  
**MAGAZINE**

**Crimean  
media:**

**the inside  
view**









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**"THE CRIMEAN MAGAZINE"**  
the whole truth about  
Crimea in gloss

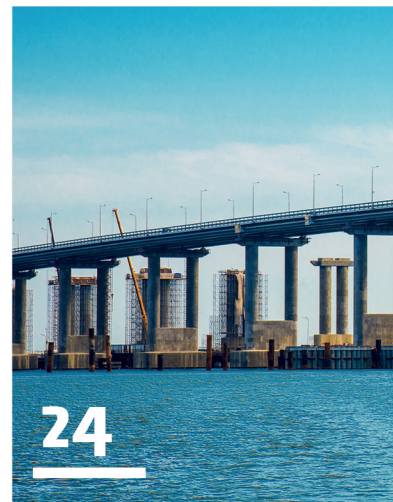
"CM" mission is to bust western  
myths about Crimea and to tell  
fairly about new Russian pearl to  
the widest possible readership  
including foreign countries.



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THEY DID NOT CHOOSE TO HEAR THE CRIMEA

Director General of the TV and Radio Company “Crimea”, Director General of the agency “Kryminform” and the head of the Sevastopol Union of Journalists were planning to come to Vienna to the OSCE meeting on freedom of speech.

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The sad fact is that in the information war  
the one who tells truth always loses.  
He is limited to truth while the liar  
can proclaim whatever he wishes  
**(Robert Sheckley)**

**Dear Ladies and Gentlemen,  
colleagues from various  
countries of the world,  
politicians, public figures,  
human rights defenders  
and all who are to different  
extents interested in  
the Republic of Crimea!**

We have decided to tell you in this special issue of the "Crimean Magazine" about an important component of any society – the mass media. After all, it's us, the journalists, who watch from the inside how the Russian Crimea lives and develops, being today at the center of geopolitical contradictions and under the deliberate attention

of many countries. And we are ready for an honest and uncensored conversation, without any political subtexts.

We know that many of you are interested in Crimea. And many of you are happy to visit us and to see everything with your own eyes, make your own conclusions and invite



# COLUMN

editor's

Dramatic sunset at cape Fiolent.





# COLUMN

editor's



**Head editor,  
Maria Volkonskaya**

the Crimean journalists to make a visit as well. Crimea was visited by the representatives of more than 130 countries only in 2018. However, some states do not welcome the Crimeans. Moreover, they are trying to limit us with sanctions and travel bans. They do not want to hear us. Or maybe they are afraid? It also happens that we are called as “traitors”, “collaborators” and even “KGB agents”; and our opinion is “undesirable information”. But we have the

right to have an opinion! You must admit that it is unfair to draw conclusions about life in Crimea without having visited it and refusing flatly to hear the Crimeans speaking.

Today, some of you are ready to listen only to those Crimeans who left Crimea in 2014 for various reasons, including the political ones. Most of them never visit or visit Crimea very rarely. Obviously, they know Crimea from the inside. More likely that they love the Crimea and miss their native land. But, unfortunately, some of them often use this knowledge against Crimea and against those who live here today. They use it for the sake of political gain and making political dividends.

All of us want to be heard as well! After all, Crimea is not a bone of contention. And it never was completely Ukrainian: ethnically, culturally or historically. Do you think you can engage love by violence? The policy of forced ukrainization in Crimea that had been pursued for two decades had not lead to anything. Today, even Ukrainian policy-makers admit that language suppression has failed in Crimea. The attempts of

**In this special issue of the “CM” we will tell you firsthand how the Crimean media live and develop today, what has changed in recent years and how it was before at different periods in the history of the peninsula**





the Ukrainian nationalists to abolish the autonomy of Crimea, to make it an ordinary region of Ukraine have failed as well.

Today, some policy-makers are again trying to make Crimea a coin to exchange, and to denude the Crimeans of their right to vote. Information wars are being waged against us. We are not good at this. Perhaps we are losing it. After all, Crimea is a peaceful and very hospitable land! More than 170 nationalities live in peace and quiet on the peninsula. We admit that we aren't as skilled at information wars as our opponents. But a long time ago in our multinational republic we learned to respect each other: to protect and preserve the culture, religion and customs of different nations. And we are proud of it! We would like to emphasize that we always welcome guests from all over the world: the USA, Japan, Canada, European countries ... Come over with peace! After all, the main mission of any war, including information one, is to depersonalize the enemy. And just as soon as we start to see human beings in each other, to hear each other, we won't want to fight.

Inside this special issue of the "CM" we will tell you from the first person point of view how the Crimean media live and develop today, what has changed in recent years and how it was before at different periods in the history of the peninsula. The opinions of journalists from various media are collected here: these are large media holdings with a huge audience, and small regional newspapers, and news agencies. But regardless of the format or technical equipment, we are working together so that our Crimea could flourish. Flourish in terms of sanctions and breaking through the information blockade. Certainly, it is difficult to cover the whole picture and to give the floor to every Crimean edition in one special issue. After all, more than 466 media outlets are working on the peninsula today, including national editions: Crimean Tatar, Bulgarian, German, Armenian, etc. If you are interested in the full picture – you are welcome!

**Sincerely yours,  
Head editor,  
Maria Volkonskaya**



# University with centenary history



**Today the V.I. Vernadsky Crimean Federal University is the largest higher educational institution of the Republic of Crimea and is justly included in the list of the leading scientific and educational centers of the Southern Federal District of the Russian Federation.**

The Crimean University is in the top ten among leading Russian universities by the number of foreign students.

Currently, the latest scientific, research, educational and training laboratories, as well as scientific and research centers provide the university with the opportunity to be involved in intensive developments.

An unknown karst cavity was discovered during the construction of the "Tav-

rida" highway. It was in CFU karstologists and speleologists' studies revealing that the cave is the largest in the piedmont Crimea (the height of underground halls reaches 12–15 m, the length – 1,300 m with the prospect of further increase). The cave preserved the unique bone remains of ancient animals that lived on the peninsula in the preglacier period – 800-1200 thousand years ago. This is one of the largest discoveries in Europe and the only one with such undamaged conditions in Russia. A scientific center of the university will be created on the basis of this cave together with the recreational, tourist, cultural and educational speleo complex. Currently, the research of the cave engages the experts both from other scientific centers of Russia and the foreign scientists.

Once, two future Physics Nobel laureates, Igor Evgenievich Tamm and Ilya Mikhailovich Frank, worked at CFU. Its graduates as well were the future outstanding physicists – Igor







◀ Ensim hybrid endovascular simulator

synchrotron radiation. The use of such monochromators in modern synchrotron installations will allow studying the properties of micro- and nanomaterials under extreme conditions of high pressures, low and high temperatures.

A Center for Simulation Training and Accreditation was founded on the CFU basis, where a full cycle of medical training is provided: virtual, dummy, in terms of vet lab, cadaver lab and in clinic conditions. This contrasts the Center of university to the similar ones throughout the country. The CFU Center for Simulation Training and Accreditation is considered the best in Russia in terms of coverage and is highly competitive with the one in Kazan Federal University.

Most of the agro-industrial developments of CFU are aimed at solving the main problem of the Crimea – the safety and rational use of water resources.

Thus, the CFU researches allow growing drought-resistant gardens, which consume far less water and are characterized by low maintenance. CFU experimental garden includes 60 varieties of apple trees with 30-40 tons of fruitage per hectare.

University scientists are working to create a new model for the forced precipitation. This will provide the additional replenishing of open water sources: rivers, lakes and groundwater of Crimea.

The scientific mission reduces to managing the precipitation process, which is aimed at the water ingress into the area that has the capability of filtering and needed accumulation, being nature friendly and enhancing the aquifer at the same time.

**Irina GULIVATAYA**

**This autumn the V.I. Vernadsky CFU celebrated his 100<sup>th</sup> birthday.**

**Today the university includes:**

- **11 educational academies** and institutes, 6 colleges, 10 scientific organizations.

- **33 thousand students** (among them – the citizens of 54 states) are studying here.

Vasil'evich Kurchatov, Kirill Ivanovich Shchelkin, Kirill Dmitrievich Sinelnikov. And at present the university is working in many modern areas, one of them is synthesis of magnetic crystals, experimental and theoretical studies of various effects in them. The most interesting and promising material synthesized in Crimea is an optically transparent magnetic crystal of iron borate. It is grown according to the original technology developed by Crimean scientists, which allows obtaining samples of high structural perfection. Recently it was found that these crystals can serve as unique monochromators of

**Russian President VLADIMIR PUTIN:**

**“Over the past years, the university worked the long and eventful way up, accumulated significant experience in training the qualified specialists in various fields of knowledge and enriched with wonderful traditions. And definitely it was always famous for a great scientific school, reputable lecturers and mentors”.**



**NATIONAL**  
communities

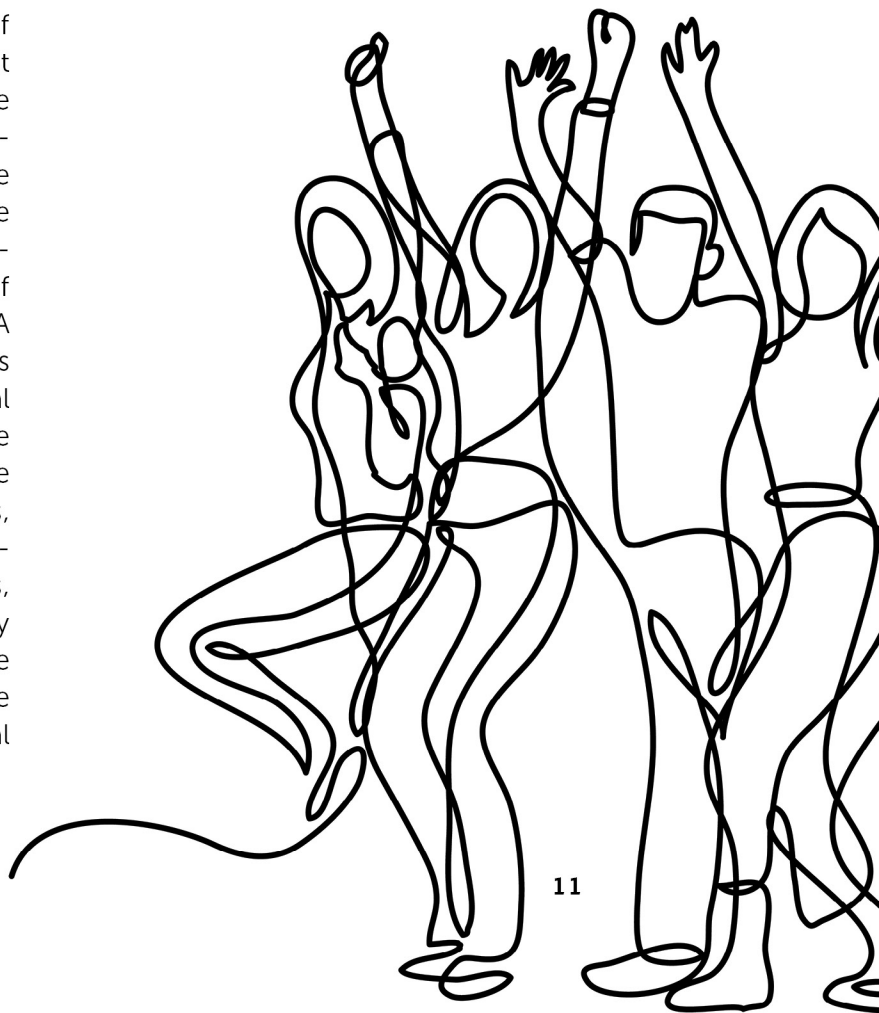




# THE TIME OF SPECULATIONS ON NATIONAL SUBJECT IS OVER

**Text: Egor PETRUNIN**

The multinational Crimean peninsula where the representatives of over 170 nations live in peace and quiet has been the object of constant political manipulation throughout the whole Ukrainian period of its history. The separated and conflicting Crimea was convenient for Kiev, but not for the Crimeans. The fundamental changes occurred just after the referendum in March 2014, when the peninsula became a part of Russia. The times of change has come for inter-ethnic relations. A few months later, the national communities of the Crimea received the status of national and cultural autonomies. Today among the peoples united in such organizations are Azerbaijanis, Armenians, Bulgarians, Greeks, Jews, Crimean Karaites, Moldovans, Estonians, Germans, Belarusians, Crimean Tatars, Ossetians and Koreans. And what has exactly changed into inter-ethnic relations on the peninsula - in an exclusive interview with the leaders of the Crimean national and cultural autonomies to "The Crimean magazine".





## NATIONAL communities

The Chairman of PO  
"Regional national and cultural  
autonomy of Belarusians  
of the Republic of Crimea"  
"The Belarusians of Crimea"

**ROMAN CHEGRINETS:**

**Crimea  
has far more freedom  
of speech than in Europe**

The time we had in Ukraine was different for events. But I'll describe it in one word - it was a beggar time. No one needed the Belarusian culture and the Belarusians themselves in Crimea. We were remembered not more than once in a year. And only just to hold a boring event and put a tick in the government reports. And all this happened, despite the fact that the Belarusian community is the fourth largest in Crimea. Let me give a spectacular example: we created a book - "The Belarusians of Crimea". This is a book about the Crimeans of Belarusian origin who became outstanding. For example, Alexander Green who wrote "Assol" was a Belarusian. The point is that this book was written back in 2006 by members of our community. But we managed to publish it only 12 years later, already being in the Russian Crimea! This is a good example of the authorities' attitude towards the community.

Starting 2006, we have been knocking the every door of government organizations. Another example is the celebration of the Unity Day of Russia and Belarus



Photo: Mihail Gladchuk

which we were simply forbidden to host throughout the whole Ukrainian era. And now we celebrate this day in the format of the annual festival of Slavic cultures at the republican level. Today we see support and interest from the government. Of course, it could not be without sand in the wheel. Western sanctions affect, or let's say, try to affect by means of grant organizations and foreign agents. But the priorities of their actions are still the Crimean Tatars and the Crimean Ukrainians. This concerns us to a lesser degree. Western "assistants" apparently consider it necessary to work over these exact nationalities and the main pressure of political attacks falls on them.

When they talk about alleged human rights abuse and the lack of freedom of speech in Crimea, I just want to invite all Western colleagues to us! Come and see with your own eyes the way the media work here, the way the national holidays are covered, the way the many national newspapers, magazines and books are published. I'll say like that: Crimea has far more freedom of speech than in Europe. And all that is grounded by facts.



## NATIONAL communities

The Chairman of the Regional Public Organization "Ukrainian community of the Crimea" Anastasia Gridchina:

### In Ukrainian times the Crimea didn't have dignified positioning of Ukrainian culture

The Crimean Ukrainians knew perfectly well that all the actions of the Ukrainian authorities in Crimea were nothing but a puppet game. In fact no one developed or financed the Ukrainian culture. All actions were absolute window dressing. In other words, when the top officials came, the girls in kokoshniks with bread and salt were put in front of them, that was all our Ukrainian culture. Kiev authorities had no interest in the culture development on the peninsula. For some reason, they were sure that it will be enough to impose the Ukrainian language to the Russian-speaking population in order to cultivate the love for it. Well this had the exactly opposite effect. Negative one. A positive example is the films in Ukrainian at the cinemas: by doing this, the Ukrainian government hoped to cultivate

love for the Ukrainian language, but this never happened. Personally I, having lived in Crimea for all my life, can safely say that I had never seen before 2014 the correct positioning of neither the Ukrainian culture, nor the Ukrainian songs, nor the Ukrainian poems in a way of provoking the interest, not rejection of it. And indeed at that time, the Crimea didn't have the Ukrainian community as it is. We've been waiting and hoping, but our development happened in the Russian Crimea already.

Finally we've got the opportunity to publish our books, to celebrate our holidays at a full scale. So, with the support of the republican authorities, we held the second annual festival "Obzhimki" ("Reapings"), which was held in the Simferopol Gagarinsky



Photo: Mihail Gladchuk





## NATIONAL communities

Park and gathered heaps of people. A lot of people started to reach out to the Ukrainian songs and this, I believe, is the correct positioning of the Ukrainian culture, not against it. It never happened before that the Ukrainian and Russian communities could be in the same boat. But it turned out to be possible within the framework of the informal organization "The Assembly of Slavic Peoples" which included the Belarusian, Russian and Ukrainian communities. Today we organize events together.

As for the information blockade, we can see how our Bulgarian and German colleagues are trying today to break the blockade made of the lies that surround Crimea. And even today there are people who "are sitting" on European and American grants and who are trying to imbalance our lives. Such people are in the Crimea as well. Their task is to make malicious and untruthful posts in social networks, to the point that we all are walking here at gunpoint.

You know, the Crimean Ukrainians do not want to go back to Ukraine. These are the people who made their choice at the referendum of 2014 and the Russian Crimea is their home. We are normal people and we honor the traditions of our fathers and great-grandfathers, our heritage. And it was the Russian Crimea that gave us this opportunity. We have the Ukrainian national and cultural autonomy emerged in the Russian Crimea. Funny enough, that all this, including the correct positioning of the Ukrainian culture, became possible only in Russia.



Photo: Mihail Gladchuk

**The Chairman of PO "Regional Bulgarian national and cultural autonomy of the Republic of Crimea named after "Paisius of Hilendar" Ivan Abazher:**

## **We've always been the inferior nations for Ukraine**

It is impossible to draw a parallel between the Ukrainian state and Russia. These are two completely different subjects with completely different goals. Ukraine supported and still supports only its own culture, and at the best case speculates on the rest. We have always been the inferior nations for them (for the Ukrainian government - ed.). But I also cannot say that in the Ukrainian Crimea we were



## NATIONAL communities

forbidden to hold our events and holidays. The Crimean government has always been loyal towards many national communities, including ours. We were partners, including the programs for the return and resettlement of deportees on ethnic grounds.

But today the Russian Crimea has just completely different method of interaction between national and cultural autonomies and authorities: from the legal framework to practical implementation. That is why the West envies us, in my opinion. It envies the growth rate and that harmony of a multinational state which we are showing today. Thus comes the desire to “curb” by means of sanctions regime. After all, exactly because of the sanctions the people with Bulgarian roots are afraid to come to us from the territory of Ukraine. Another example: we have always had good relations with the Bulgarian embassy in Ukraine. Through their offices the dialogue of the Bulgaria public and the cultural exchange was carried out. As soon as they began to impose sanctions – all contacts were cut. They separated from us, as if there were no more Bulgarians in Crimea. Moreover, the approach has changed: now they believe that the Nazis live in Crimea, not the nationalities. Kiev, in its turn, is whipping up the atmosphere around the Crimea. Moreover, I know and see people in Ukraine who are quite famous

**Today the Russian Crimea has just completely different method of interaction between national and cultural autonomies and authorities**

in our Bulgarian environment. They are even afraid to answer the phone calls, fearing that problems will follow after that. They were my friends, colleagues and partners just yesterday. I want to say that some international organizations, including the OSCE, unfortunately became participants in forming an international Russo-phobic climate. Although the states of Europe have created this organization in order to respect human rights. Isn't it absurd? My personal opinion – you shouldn't pay attention to what they say. Today the main thing is that like all other nationalities we live comfortably in the Crimea. Our rights are respected and the opportunity for self-expression and development is given.





## NATIONAL communities

The President of all-Crimean Jewish congress of the Republic of Crimea and the city of Sevastopol Jan Epstein:

### They try to curb us with sanctions

During the Ukrainian period, we operated without special support from the state, rather on our own. Being already in the Russian Crimea in December 2015, an essential decision for us was made: December 11 – the Holocaust Remembrance Day in Crimea was made the official Memorial Day. Today the government supports our community. And the imposition of sanctions is a pressure mechanism on national communities as well. Then, we had a dialogue with the state of Israel before. The Israelis used to come to us, we organized joint projects. Today there are no such projects. Just because of the sanctions. If the brave hearts come to us, we cannot talk about that, so they would not have problems later. The consulate which used to be in Crimea, also suspended its work. And that was the first Honorary Consulate in the CIS territory. The path to cultural exchange with the countries of the West is completely cut off. And at the same time the Crimea is still accused of abusing human rights!

Today, Russia has become one of the most influential governments, and this cannot be ignored. And Crimea has become the a part of a strong country. We are dynamically developing both economically and socially.

Photo: Mihal Gladchuk





## NATIONAL communities

**The Chairman of the Regional national and cultural autonomy of the Germans of the Republic of Crimea, the Chairman of the Interethnic Relations Committee of the Republic of Crimea Yuri Hempel:**

### We are breaking the information blockage of Crimea

The national communities of the republic were active both in the Ukrainian period and in the Russian one. But it should be mentioned that during the Ukrainian period, such nationalities as Armenians, Bulgarians, Greeks and Germans were considered kind of flawed categories for Kiev. In some way because these nationalities belong to the category of deported and rehabilitated ones. Even the Ukrainian program for returning and resettlement the deportees on ethnic grounds was shortened for Armenians, Bulgarians and Germans. Being a part of Ukraine for many years we have been knocking on every door asking for decisions on rehabilitation. But that wasn't done. In my opinion this unwillingness to make advances is due to the fact that at that time the Kiev authorities were more comfortable to speculate on inter-ethnic relations and to hold the national groups in suspense. With opened issues, dissatisfaction and absence of historical justice it is easy to manipulate the national groups. All that became history after entering of Crimea into Russia. Today we are watching the flourishing of a multinational republic being the part of a huge multinational state.



I cannot help but note that Western sanctions obstruct the full-fledged cultural communication of national groups living in Crimea with their metropolises. Let me give an example: almost every Crimean German family has relatives in Germany. But today due to the sanctions, they are deprived of the opportunity to get an official visa and visit relatives. I consider this a direct violation of human rights. We had sister-cities relations between the Crimean and German cities, today they are suspended for the same reason. The cultural exchange is blocked.

But thanks to our "People's Diplomacy" program, we have partners appeared from social organizations in Germany. The main goal of the project is to break the information blockade of Crimea. I think that we have succeeded. Today we are actively working with both public associations and politicians, our national diplomatic officials are working in social networks. And if some material cannot be published in the official German media, it is published on the social network. People get the opportunity to read it. Some of our stories get 2.5 million views each.



## NATIONAL communities

Under the “People’s Diplomacy” project not only public figures visit us, but also politicians of the local and regional level, even from the Bundestag. Our national diplomatic officials are appearing in Germany, Norway, Austria and Sweden. No matter what the Western politicians would say there, there was not nationality-based infringement of rights in Crimea and could not be.

I also want to recall that almost all national groups spoke at a historic referendum in 2014 and supported the decision to enter Russia. Today the stigma of a nation’s betrayer has been removed from the Germans. It was very important for us. Another important point: in the times of Ukraine, we have been asking long and hard to open the Peoples Friendship Center for us, but this became possible only in 2014.





NATIONAL  
communities



Photo: Mihail Gladchuk

**Andreas Maurer –**  
Deputy of the Parliament  
of Quakenbrück



Photo: Mihail Gladchuk

**Andy Jones –**  
world's record breaker  
in cliff diving, second place  
in Freeright cliff diving  
World cup in Simeiz





”



# VLADIMIR PUTIN:

*“Russia will never give away  
Crimea, under no conditions”*

This was said by the head of state in an interview with the ORF TV channel just before his visit to Austria.

Putin stressed again that Crimea became independent not as a result of the Russian troops invasion, but as a result of the Crimeans' will during a referendum. According to the president, such a referendum can not be called an annexation.

Vladimir Putin mentioned Kosovo, as an example. He was surprised that the withdrawal of Kosovo from Serbia is called self-determination, but not annexation.

– The Kosovars did this by a parliamentary decision alone, while the Crimeans did it in a referendum, with an over 90 percent voter turnout – people living in Crimea came to vote for independence, and then for uniting with Russia, with about the same turnout – about 90 percent. Is this not democracy? What is it then? And what is democracy?

Vladimir Putin categorically answered the question about the possible conditions under which Russia could give away Crimea:

**– There are no such conditions and there can never be.**



# SERGEY AKSYONOV:

## *The “Crimean Declaration” of the US State Department does not affect the life and mood of the Crimeans*

Washington still does not want to recognize the results of the free expression of the Crimeans' will, but at the same time it recognizes and supports the Nazi regime in Kiev, which seized power as a result of a coup d'état. We were once again shown that the concepts of freedom and democracy for American politicians mean nothing. Their logic is simple: everything that does not meet the America's geopolitical interests is a violation of democratic norms and international law. Such an approach discredits not only the so-called Crimean Declaration, but also the international image of the United States. This is a destabilization source of the entire system of international relations”, – wrote Sergey Aksyonov, the Head

of the Republic of Crimea, on his page on the social network.

– We made our choice. The March 2014 referendum complied with the UN Charter. The Constitution of Russia defines Crimea and Sevastopol as subjects of the Russian Federation. According to our president, the issue of territorial belonging of the Crimea is closed forever. All the rest does not matter.

Let us recall, Mike Pompeo, US Secretary of State, signed the “Crimean Declaration”, which determines that the non-recognition of the peninsula as part of Russia is the official policy of Washington. This position was supported by the EU and the UK.







# It's colossal!,

- the representatives of Ukrainian Diaspora said about the Crimean Bridge

**The representatives of the Ukrainian Diaspora, who arrived in October 2018 at Crimea, were impressed by the transformations that happened on the peninsula in recent years. This was stated by Anastasia Gridchina, the Head of the Ukrainian community of Crimea.**

The guests arrived at the peninsula with an inception visit from seven countries: Italy, Germany, Poland, Bulgaria, Moldova, Georgia and Lithuania. They laid flowers at the monument to Taras Shevchenko, the Ukrainian writer, and took part in an excursion to the Museum of Ukrainian Embroidery named after Vera Roik.

"Foreign delegates are impressed by the changes and transformations that happened in the republic and by the pace of infrastructure development", — said Gridchina.

The head of the community adds that some of the guests drove along the Crimean Bridge. According to them, - "it is colossal".

The longest bridge in Russia and Europe, with the length of 19 kilometers, has been under construction since February 2016. Its highway section was commissioned half a year before the deadline set by the state contract. The traffic on it was opened for cars and passenger buses on May 16, 2018. The traffic for freight transport was launched along the highway section on October 1, 2018.











# Information is above the sanctions. In the public eye of the whole country

Why do people read the “Crimean newspaper” in US, Japan and Germany

**Yalta can be hardly called a province. This small resort town has been in the public eye of the whole country for the last two centuries. And the newspaper lives just like its readers do.**

After all, in 1934 it was created not like a town edition, but under a large and promising project that was supposed to turn the Black Sea coast into a blooming super resort – “Socialist Reconstruction

of the Southern Coast of Crimea”. But the war interfered.

After the war, the “Crimean newspaper” fulfilled its mission as being a resort newspaper in full. Its journalists were the first to report on numerous new sanatoriums and recreation houses that opened up on the Crimean coast, and about how the infrastructure of the peninsula is developing. But the main thing is that the creative team has always strived to be modern, to make a newspaper interesting both for local residents and for tourists.



## BREAKING inform blockage

Perhaps that is why a lot of things that have appeared here can be defined by the word "for the first time". For the first time a crossword puzzle appeared here, in Crimea. For the first time we began to publish the horoscope, which sent by the reader from India. For the first time the "Crimean newspaper" (then "Kurortnaya newspaper") published the extracts of works written by many well-known poets and writers — Konstantin Paustovsky, Julian Semenov, Sergey Baruzdin, Konstantin Simonov, Mikhail Dudin, Mikhail Pozhenyan, Yevgeny Yevtushenko ... the list is endless. The newspaper discovered Nika Turbina, the young poetess.

## THE "CRIMEAN NEWSPAPER" BY NUMBERS

The "Crimean newspaper" will celebrate its **85<sup>th</sup> birthday in 2019.**

Almost **20,5** thousand issues came out over the newspaper's history.

**30** special and thematic issues (beside the primary ones) were published in last 3 years.

**30** thousand copies is the one-time circulation of each issue

**1500** letters on average receives the newspaper each year.





## BREAKING inform blockage



[www.gazetacrimea.ru](http://www.gazetacrimea.ru)

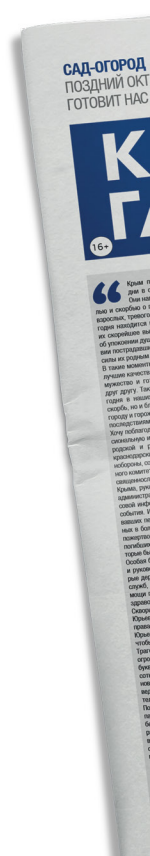
The high level of newspaper publications corresponded to the high journalistic standard of the team. The first honored journalist of Ukraine in the Crimea and the first honored journalist in the Crimea belong to our newspaper as well.

By the way, it was the “Crimean newspaper” that was the first in Crimea to switch to offset, which made its printing production more attractive. And it’s us who first got a computer workshop among the Crimean newspapers ...

## OPENNESS POLICY

It seems now that all these distant memories are relics of the past. Well you can come back to 2014 which is not so far. The “Crimean newspaper” dealt with heavy difficulties of the transition period. And it survived during difficult Ukrainian times. Let’s recall that on the eve of the historic referendum the Ukrainian management of this media outlet left the “Crimean newspaper” staff to the mercy of fate. The editorial board still managed to save the newspaper from bankruptcy and liquidation by work-

**It should be noted that the sanctions and restrictions could not break the readers’ interest to the Crimean subject. The “Crimean newspaper” website on the Internet has not only Russian-speaking audiences in Russia and Ukraine among its readers. The site’s statistic shows a steady interest in the “Crimean newspaper” among the residents of Belarus, Kazakhstan, the USA, Germany, the Netherlands, Israel, Moldova, England, Latvia, Poland, Italy, France, Turkey, and Canada. The website of the “Crimean newspaper” attracts the attention of readers from Japan, Thailand, Syria, South Korea and others.**





# BREAKING inform blockage

ing without wages for over half a year. After the historic all-Crimean referendum, the “Crimean newspaper” became the official press body of the Council of Ministers of the Republic of Crimea.

Nowadays, in the daily version of the “Crimean newspaper” (with its turnover of 25000 copies) you can read about important world, Russian and Crimean events, the analytic reports, expert opinions, journalistic investigations, exclusive stories, including materials about the historical past of the peninsula. In addition, traditionally every Friday, the readers are eagerly waiting for the “thick newspaper” – this is an expanded 32-page issue, which not only sums up the informational results of the week, but offers readers an increased concentration of exclusive publications as well. By the way, since 2014, the newspaper has had a large-scale rebranding: it has actualized the content presentation, format, topics and headings.



Photo: Mihail Gladchuk

## Maria Zakharova – the official representative of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Russian Federation

“I often go to Crimea, I like it here. It is interesting, pleasant and comfortable here. I have a lot of experience in visiting different countries. And that’s why I can say that Crimea has got not just places to relax – the world-class hotels with excellent service have appeared here. My open-minded colleagues who lived or worked abroad, and many were even born there, are unrestricted in their movement around the world. So they come regularly to Crimea as well. For me and for many of my friends, a trip to Crimea is a natural choice”.



## Ge Zhili – chairman of the Crimean friends’ club in People’s Republic of China





## NEW history



It should be noted that after the reunification of Crimea with Russia, the interaction of the Crimean media (including the “Crimean newspaper”) with the authorities moved to a new level. The legislative and executive branches of government have become more accessible to journalists on the peninsula. The government newspaper presents information about the life of the peninsula and the work of the government to a wide audience as clear as possible. The “Crimean newspaper” supplements all the main thematic publications with comments by the leaders and head specialists of ministries and departments of the republic. And no one is hiding in the offices, like it happened in the Ukrainian period.

The newspaper is delivered to 25 regions of the republic. The readership and new features of the edition are extended with the help of website of the “Crimean newspaper”, its pages in social networks on the Internet, where the readers have the opportunity to react to publications and ask questions. Moreover, you can subscribe to the publication in any part of Russia. What, in fact, is done by the curator regions and those Russians



The newspaper has one of the richest histories. This media can be called a historical phenomenon. The newspaper was born in July 1934, when the unprecedented project “Socialist Reconstruction of the Southern Coast of Crimea” was launched in Crimea.

Thousands of copies of the newspaper, which has become a real history chronicle of the all-Union

health resort from the military 1940s, the space 1960s, the perestroika 1980s and the tough 1990s are now also kept in state archives, including in the Russian State Library named after V.I. Lenin in Moscow. The historical year for this media was 1984, when the newspaper was awarded the Order of Friendship of Peoples by the Decree of the Presidium of the Supreme Soviet of the USSR.



## NEW history

who are interested in the life of the country's youngest region.

It should be noted that the sanctions and restrictions could not hinder the readers' interest in the Crimean subject. The "Crimean newspaper" website on the Internet has not only Russian-speaking audiences in Russia and Ukraine among its readers. The site's statistics show a steady interest in the "Crimean newspaper" among the residents of Belarus, Kazakhstan, the USA, Germany, the Netherlands, Israel, Moldova, England, Latvia, Poland, Italy, France, Turkey, and Canada. The website of the "Crimean newspaper" attracts the attention of readers from Japan, Thailand, Syria, South Korea and others.

We should mention that the issues of the "Crimean newspaper" are now available for a large-scale readership of the Telegram mobile application. Inside it, the newspa-

per has its own Telegram channel called "Telegrams from Crimea". Good news is that such an active "merging" of print media with electronic one expands the newspaper readership both quantitatively and qualitatively - the age limit of the readership is rejuvenated actively. Speaking about an updated and accessible presentation of information you can see that the newspaper regularly publishes infographics on various areas of life.

So what is the secret of mutual understanding of the readers and the "Crimean newspaper", which is one of the oldest mass media? Two chief editors, the former and the present one, are explaining this. Petr Makukha had been the head of the media outlet for 40 years, 15 of which – in the post of chief editor. He says:

– The newspaper has always been focused on the average reader. It was he







## Tomas N'evergreen – Danish singer

“I am delighted with the arrival in Crimea. Once I envied the Crimeans that they live in such a beautiful place. The sea, mountains, forests, waterfalls, beautiful people - everything you need for a total happiness. And now I also had the opportunity to be here and take a piece of this fairy-tale with me to my homeland. I am definitely a happy person”.



Photo: Mihail Gladchuk

## Weber Hendrick – the Head of the public organization “Norwegian people’s diplomacy”

who was our main correspondent. We had dozens of freelance correspondents in cities and districts of Crimea, about 60 readers' letters for each published newspaper issue. Not a single one was ignored, business trips were sent in regards to those letters, we made inquiries to high authorities with a publication about the measures taken. To appreciate every reader's word, every appeal and request was an editorial rule, – emphasizes Petr Makukha.



**Maria Volkonskaya, his current successor, Director of the State Budget Institution of the Republic of Crimea “Editorial board of the “Crimean newspaper”, chief editor of the newspaper has similar opinion:**

– There is an opinion that the state newspaper is something boring and “refined”. My personal task (as I’m the person who’s in charge of the newspaper) and the task of our team is to make all our publications interesting and useful for every reader. I am more than confident that Russia hasn’t got another regional state newspaper with such a stylish and modern layout, with such a brave and objective presentation of materials and with such creative offers and headings as ours. We are a socially oriented media outlet and our mission is not only to inform, but also to help.

Life example: In early summer, Yalta residents reported to the editors that some initiative locals were cooking kebabs on the moorage at the Swallow Nest, the main symbol of Crimea. The correspondent of the “Crimean newspaper” contacted the head of the state enterprise “Crimean Sea Ports”, who resolved this issue. The careless businessmen were expelled just in a few hours after the call receiving. The port administration promised to increase the security officers number and to monitor constantly the situation with illegal trade at the Swallow Nest in Foros and in other towns of the South Coast.



## NEW history

The newspaper's team have a socially active attitude, - continues Volkonskaya. - One of the mass projects for the development of corporate donation is # Donorsgazeta. A joint charity event of the newspaper and the Republican Blood Center was launched in October 2016. About 100 liters of blood were donated within the project. The column "Help" is also known for the entire peninsula. Every week we provide help to those in need. Thanks to the "Crimean newspaper" a lot of heroes of this column got real help and were able to solve their problems.



**Lyudmila Konovalova,  
deputy chief editor,  
has been working in a  
newspaper for 44 years:**

- After the return of Crimea to Russia, the central Crimean media completely updated its technical support, design and thematic content. Moreover, today it is a young team of journalists already. They transfer their fresh outlook on life and its problems to newspaper pages. They have a lot to say to readers. They are not afraid of sensitive topics, they ask officials uncomfortable questions, if this is demanded by readers. The reports from a meeting of the Council of Ministers, an interview with the minister, a comment by those responsible for complaints of Crimeans ... Nowadays young journalists have the opportunity to study (among all other duties) – at the courses or in editorial offices of national newspapers. The visible result is the number of subscribers and victories in various journalistic competitions. Today Crimea is in the public eye of the whole country and the entire world.

Crimean Magazine



While world media experts assure that the age of print media is coming to an end, the example of Crimea is destroying such a vision. Let's recall how Ukraine began the blockade of Crimea in November 2015. The extremists from the Ukrainian side exploded the energy branches in the Kherson region. The status of emergency was installed in Crimea. It was a very difficult time for all Crimeans. At that time, during the black-out, the peninsula was without electricity, the Internet was off, the TVs went out. And it was the "Crimean newspaper" that became the only source of information for the most Crimeans. (фото: блэкаут в Крыму) Subscribers of the media outlet could be sure: every morning they will have an opportunity to learn about what is happening from the latest issue of the newspaper. During the black-out, the editorship released a special issue with a detailed overview of the situation in a de-energized Crimea. The 100 thousand copies circulation was given to readers in all the republic regions free of charge.





# “The Crimean Magazine”: the whole truth about Crimea in gloss

*“The Crimean Magazine” –  
main Crimean navigator*

Social educational glossy edition – “The Crimean Magazine” was born in Crimea that already became Russian, in 2015. And by the end of the year, the first issue of the “CM” came out. The magazine, along with the Crimean information agency, is included in “The Crimean newspaper” media holding – one of the largest in Crimea.

Today, “CM” is a socially oriented media and an information bridge that is meant to unite the peninsula and the world, despite sanctions and blockades.



“CM” mission is to bust western myths about Crimea and to tell fairly about new Russian pearl to the widest possible readership including foreign countries.



## UNITED we stand

"CM" is a navigator around the Crimea for tourists, businessmen, political figures and all those who want to contribute to the peninsula's development.

*We build  
information bridges*

### "CM" AIMS:

- to provide reliable information about the development of Crimea;
- to attract investments to the economy of the peninsula;
- to activate the cooperation with all the regions of Russia and far abroad;
- to promote touristic and recreational options in order to regain the status of all-year resort to the peninsula;
- to speak objectively about the industrial, economic, agricultural potential of the republic;
- to cover the richest history, culture and the multinational traditions of Crimea.

*You can always find  
exclusive information  
about the all life spheres of  
the peninsula, along with  
analytics, political reviews,  
interviews and only the  
best pictures and design*



**Jim Alers –**  
American professional fighter  
from Puerto Rico

"Despite of sanctions I have decided to visit Crimea. I want to show that no prohibitions can keep from goal achievement. Crimea is terrific and it's impossible to resist an opportunity to come here".



**Karlo Caput –**  
Croatian fighter, judo master

"This is one of the most interesting trips that I'll remember forever. There is something Croatian in Crimea, it's a resort country too. And Yalta looks like my native city Dubrovnik, it feels as if I have never left it. It's home felt and cozy here.



## UNITED we stand

The edition became popular not only in Crimea, but also on the mainland of Russia just after its coming out. Such regions as St. Petersburg, Moscow, Belgorod, Volgograd, Rostov-on-Don and the Krasnodar Territory are now subscribing to the magazine. The "CM" is also subscribed for in remote regions: Magadan, Sakhalin, Bashkortostan, Tomsk Region, Petropavlovsk-Kamchatsky and even distant Yakutia. The "CM" has become a popularly accepted navigator around the Crimea.

Thus, it was decided to increase the number of pages of the magazine and its frequency. The "CM" started coming out not only once every three months (60 pages), but once every two months and with 100 pages since 2017 already.

In order to maximize the readership and go beyond the borders of Russia, an electronic version of the magazine was created, as well as the official pages on social networks (Facebook, Instagram, VKontakte).

*Discover Crimea again  
together with "The  
Crimean Magazine"!*



[www.journalcrimea.ru](http://www.journalcrimea.ru)

## "CM" IS AN INTERNATIONAL PROJECT

Nowadays the magazine's website is being read not only in Russia and Ukraine, but as well in US, France, Germany, Israel, Great Britain, Canada, Indonesia, Switzerland, Mexico, Belgium, Czech Republic and Morocco.

The readership of the "CM" social media is active as well.

### READERSHIP:

USA, Turkey, France, Germany, Lebanon, Greece, Israel, Poland, Bulgaria, Algeria, Great Britain, Belgium, Canada, Spain, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Italy, Georgia, Armenia, Belarus, Australia, South Korea and even Mexico and Indonesia.



UNITED  
we stand

# "CM" is extending the boundaries

- Each issue of the "CM" is received by all foreign delegations and guests of Crimea. It is crucially important for us to give an objective picture of the development of Crimea. And the magazine is meeting this challenge.
- The "CM" was presented to delegations from Italy, Germany, Norway, YIEF participants from Austria and Romania, as well as to scientists from the University of Bristol and many others. The magazine was given to the participants in cliff diving competitions from the UK, Colombia, and USA.
- Foreign guests of Crimea have requested us many times to publish a magazine in English. The Germans, Italians, French and Americans want to know what is happening in Crimea. And the "CM" presents such information in full: reliable and from the first person point of view. We created the first English version at the end of 2017, and it became "heavier" than Russian one and included 120 pages.



**Maria Zakharova,**  
the official Russian Foreign  
Ministry spokesperson, presented  
the English version of the magazine at  
a traditional briefing on foreign policy issues in  
Moscow. In her opinion, the English version of the "CM" is an  
"absolutely living story" for those who are really interested  
in the Crimean topic. Addressing the representatives of both  
federal and foreign media who attended the briefing, she  
added that the editorial board of the "Crimean Magazine" is  
always open to cooperation.

Further, the Head of the Republican Society of the Crimean  
Germans "Wiedergeburt", Yuri Hempel stressed that the  
need for such an edition was long overdue: "It was difficult  
to meet the delegations. We had nothing to offer out of  
printed products. Now, we have "the Crimean Magazine"  
in English. Splendid one! A lot of Europeans come to us,  
including political figures, leaders of public organizations  
and businessmen. And our common task is to break through  
the information blockade. Such an edition as "the Crimean  
Magazine" is a must. We have already presented it to our  
guests from Norway".



## UNITED we stand

*“CM” is an  
educational  
project*

**Now Crimea and the “Crimean Magazine” are open to cooperation! And we invite the speakers and teachers of journalists from around the world. Come and share your experience and see with your own eyes how the peninsula lives and how the Crimean journalism develops.**

Because of the sanctions and the blockade of Crimea, the journalists do not always have the opportunity to travel outside the republic in order to improve their professional level and to attend trainings. That’s why the “CM” is organizing the free trainings from leading speakers, including the professors of relevant universities, well-known bloggers, etc., on its own site for representatives of the Crimean media. For example, at the magazine’s invitation, Yaroslav Skvortsov (the dean of the faculty of international journalism at MGIMO, who worked as an observer in Western Europe, led the Moscow bureau of OST magazine in WEST (Munich, Bavaria)) delivered training in Simferopol.

- the “CM” is developing the cooperation with leading libraries of the Republic, as well as with universities and secondary schools. Students of specialized faculties are doing practical training in the magazine. The best of them are becoming our editorial staff. We do have a young editing team.



- The “Crimean Magazine” has a column “United we stand”. And I am sure that it is the unity which is the strength of standing for the Crimeans who live in peace and quiet despite different religions and political preferences, who work together for the prosperity of Crimea. We are not obsessed with information wars. We have completely different aims. There is a good phrase: “The truth becomes the first victim of the war”. We do not want to allow this. That’s why we created such a project as “the Crimean Magazine”. Including the English version as well, so you could have the opportunity to receive the first-hand information, from the Crimeans themselves. I hope our opponents will have the courage to hear this truth, - **SAID MARIA VOLKONSKAYA, THE CHIEF EDITOR OF THE “CM”.**



- The “Crimean Magazine” is not just a high-quality printed gloss. This is a magazine made with love. We want to open to the world the beauty of the peninsula, to show people that the Crimea is a microcosm of the whole world aside from the politics and sanctions lists. These are endless flowering steppes, the splendor of South Coast palaces, the mystical places of power and holy springs, the breathtaking mountains and the bluest Black Sea. These are, first of all, the people who love their land and are always happy to welcome, - **ADDED MARINA ZOVALNAYA, THE HEAD EDITOR OF THE EDITION.**



**UNITED**  
we stand

*“CM” is a project  
that promotes Crimea*

The “CM” is acting as the information partner and is participating in large business forums, economic summits, tourism exhibitions of the republican and federal level. The guests of Crimea from around the world are taking the magazine away as a guide to the peninsula.

• *The issues of “the Crimean Magazine” are often recognized as the best at All-Russian and Republican contests. We have already become winners at the All-Russian contest “MediaTour”, where such recognized editions as “Around the World”, “GEO” have participated as well. Also, the edition was the winner in the Crimean prize “Leader of the Year” in the nomination “The Best Glossy Magazine about Crimea”, in the All-Russian agro-industrial competition, etc.*

**“CM”  
IS A VIRTUAL TRIP  
AROUND CRIMEA**



Photo: Lidia Vietkhnova

## **Rick Margitza – American jazz musician**

“First time in Crimea and naturally I want to see and travel all over the peninsula. There is no such opportunity now. But I’ve got a dream of coming here again and start discovering the Crimean peninsula without losing any minute”.



Photo: Lidia Vietkhnova

## **Raja Rajeev – Indian jazz musician**

“I’m a musician, and I have to travel very often. But after many years of working, I’ve never been so warmly hosted as in Crimea. I’m happy to be here and to play for the Crimean jazz buffs”.



# *A participant of “Friendship Train”:*

**“German citizens are actively buying  
the accommodations in Crimea”**

Facing the World Cup in June 2018, the “Berlin-Moscow Friendship Train” arrived in Russia. As a part of this project, about a hundred of peace ambassadors from different countries came to different regions of Russia. Fifteen national diplomats from Germany came to Crimea. They visited not only Simferopol, but also Sevastopol, Yalta, Eupatoria, talked to representatives of authority, religious and public organizations.

## **FRIENDS ABROAD**

According to Yuri Hempel, the chairman of the Crimean German National and Cultural Autonomy, a lot of guests from Europe have visited the peninsula over the past four years, and most of them are from Germany.

- The first delegations that were coming to visit us had some kind of fear. But all the fears of the guests were dispelled after the first days of staying here, – noted Yuri Hempel. – Now we have a lot of friends – German national diplomats who present







## FOREVER TO THE CRIMEA

The “Friendship Train” project and others like that are attended by ordinary citizens of Germany. 87 people – the participants of the “Berlin-Moscow” car rally visited Crimea in 2017. Hannah Johnson was one of them. This year she decided to visit Crimea again.

– Back in 2017, we rode the bus through the ferry to the mainland. We saw the structures of the Crimean Bridge. The bridge is like a child to me. I watched closely the process of its construction on the Internet – how the arches were installed and how it was opened, – said Hanna Johnson, a participant in the national diplomacy project. The guest of the Crimea liked the new airport as well.

She also noted that back in 2018, in the framework of the “Friendship Train” project, a lot of Germans wanted to visit Crimea, but the number of seats was limited to fifteen. Some participants of such projects fell in such a love with the Crimea that they want to move here to live.

– Citizens of Germany are now actively buying accommodations in Crimea. I can’t say that this comes to wide-scale, but there is a fair amount of people who want it, – says Yuri Hempel, commenting on the words of Hannah Johnson. – In addition, those Russian Germans who left for Germany in the 90s are coming back for permanent residence here. Every year about 10-15 German families move to Crimea.

actively in their homeland an objective picture of what is happening in Crimea.

National diplomat Dirk Nessenius, a participant in the “Friendship Train” project, came to the Crimea for the first time:

- I am very happy to be here! The Crimea is now in the focus of world attention. Last year I visited Russia as well, but, unfortunately, I was not in the Crimea at that time. Now, having arrived in Crimea, I noticed that on the one hand it stopped in the 60s of the last century, but on the other – a bound forward and an update are felt now.



# 20 YEARS ON THE INFORMATION FRONT

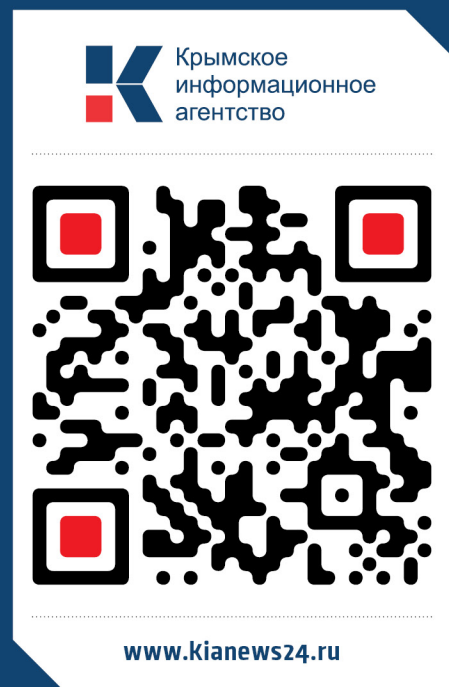
Text: Olga LEONOVA



In 1998, the year when the Constitution of the Autonomous Republic of Crimea was adopted, a new media outlet, the Crimean own news agency was born in a young republic back then which was politically active, boiling and shaken by conflicts. It was called by a simple but memorable name – Crimean Information Agency. This was the first and only one – it was the hottest new information trend of those times.

At first, the CIA's working principle was: several correspondents dug out the news in the fields, brought them to the agency, formed information packages from the news and offered them for sale to newspapers, radio stations, and television studios both in the peninsula and throughout the country – to everyone who was ready to buy the information. At the same time, the CIA has always remained the state-run mass media, its founder and organizer was the Council of Ministers of the Autonomous Republic of Crimea.

Two decades have passed since then, the CIA has entered a period of youth if considering by human standards. Its former correspondents have grown up – today they work both as editors and as well





# ЛЕНТА НОВОСТЕЙ

Состояние пострадавших в керченском колледже врачи оценили как стабильное

В больницах Крыма находятся 25 пострадавших

[Читать полностью](#)

10:52

Правительство Крыма выплатило по 1 млн рублей семьям погибших в Керченской трагедии

Правительство РФ выплатило шести семьям также по 1 млн рублей

[Читать полностью](#)

10:42

В Севастополе поймали изготовителей суррогатного алкоголя

Покупателей подыскивали лично

[Читать полностью](#)

10:31

Пограничники поймали нескольких браконьеров в Щёлкино и у мыса Фонарь

Нарушителей оштрафуют

[Читать полностью](#)

10:19

Сергей Аксёнов принял участие в народном голосовании в рамках общенационального конкурса «Великие имена России»

Глава Крыма отдал свой голос в пользу «Великие имена России»

[Telegram \(446\)](#)

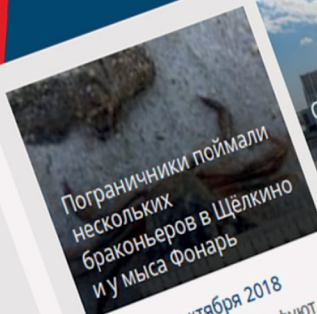
ГЛАВНАЯ НОВОСТЬ

Большинство студентов выступили за восстановление Керченского политехнического колледжа, — Аксёнов

23 октября 2018

Студенты готовы продолжить учебный процесс

## ТОП НОВОСТИ

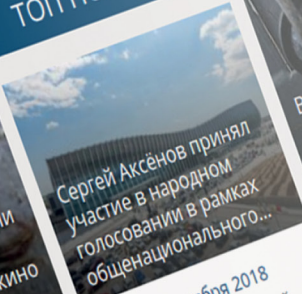


Пограничники поймали нескольких браконьеров в Щёлкино и у мыса Фонарь

24 октября 2018

Нарушителей оштрафуют

[Подробнее](#)

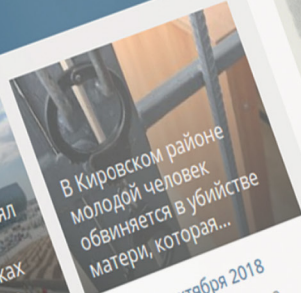


Сергей Аксёнов принял участие в народном голосовании в рамках общенационального...

24 октября 2018

Глава Крыма отдал свой голос в пользу Ивана Айввазовского

[Подробнее](#)



В Кировском районе молодой человек обвиняется в убийстве матери, которая...

24 октября 2018

Возбудено уголовное дело

[Подробнее](#)

## ПОСЛЕДНИЕ НОВОСТИ



## АНАЛИТИКА



Тыловые госпитали  
Из фондов государ  
Крыма

Виртуальная выста

Пр



## INFORM agency

It was necessary to revive the CIA from ground zero – to re-register a domain name, to recruit journalists to the editorial office, to develop the site structure and breathe the life again into the glorious name

the representatives of the federal mass media, well-known political experts, lecturers and speech writers.

The agency's growing up was not always smooth. Just like the country and just like the republic, it was shaken by the winds of change, political scandals, power shifting, times of poverty and tests with fire and water. Several times the agency resurrected and faded.

When Crimea returned to Russia in 2014, the time came for the resurrection of the CIA. The "Father-recreator" of the agency was the Council of Ministers of the Crimea acting through the Ministry of Internal Policy, Information and Communication. It was decided to create a full-fledged media holding on the basis of the "Crimean Newspaper", the state budgetary establishment. By that time, an association has already included the glossy "Crimean Magazine" besides the newspaper, that had already entered the association.



The Crimean Information Agency joined the holding. As a result, an effective media platform was created with a powerful coverage thanks to a combination of print media, glossy publication and an information agency.

It was necessary to revive the CIA from ground zero – to re-register a domain name, to recruit journalists to the editorial office, to develop the site structure and breathe the life again into the glorious name. Much has changed, only the familiar to the Crimeans logo and the principle of not eating the rumors and checking the information remained untouched.

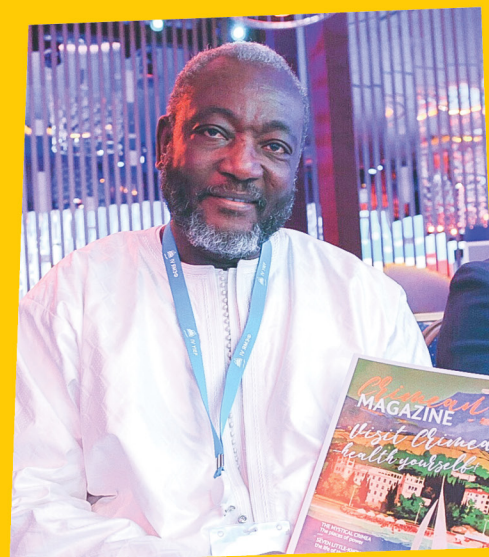




Photo: Mihail Gladchuk

Interesting fact is that at the same time, the CIA (which existed until 2014) continued as well to work in Ukraine: that is, two agencies under one name lived in Crimea and in Kiev on a parallel track. Still, the Ukrainian analogue of the CIA posted the information about life in Crimea. However, it was completely unclear where they were taking it from, since there was not a single correspondent for this "agency" on the peninsula, as there was no editorial board here.

Crimean Magazine



## Oumar Mariko – Malian politician

"I liked it so much in Crimea. I'd like to see more amazing places on the peninsula. The Crimean nature and hospitality mesmerized me. I will come here again with great pleasure".



Photo: Mihail Gladchuk

## Dalbir Singh – National Secretary All India Congress Committee



# INFORM

## agency

"This is the essence of fake informational avalanches about Crimea: it is said that people are walking at gunpoint, people are starving here, the Russian terror, annexation and so on. It can be understood how it all works on the example of the Ukrainian analogue of the CIA. And today there are a lot of such "news agencies" that give the false information about the Crimea, never visiting it. The main thing is to correspond to the anti-Russian agenda", – said the current CIA executive editor Olga Leonova, who took charge of the revived agency in February 2015.

Today's CIA team is young: the average age is 30. Actually no one of the current working group of the Crimean information agency has worked with each other before, they had to pursue together a common goal – to cover the innovations of the revived Crimea's life as objectively as possi-

ble. And to do this, it was necessary to learn new methods of work, to be super-mobile and convergent.

The slogan "Simply about complicated" was taken as the basis of the news portal. "To the best of the principles of the information genre we try to explain and decipher the causes and the consequences, and not just to write that yet another minister held a regular meeting. Our founders have never dictated the terms to us as it could be in the official media. We have the right to criticize the actions of the authorities as well. In this case, it is essentially important for all the information to be verified, official, based not on empty talks but on facts. We will not allow ourselves and the reader to be indulged in informational panic. And let us have fewer reviews, but we will be extremely honest and objective", – says CIA executive editor Natalia Redko.

"We can issue the news from the beach and the airfield, or walking in the woods with a dog. The key element is the availability of the Internet. But everything is fine in the Crimea with that", – notes Natalia Redko.

"We live during great construction projects. Everything is changing very quickly in the Crimea, new buildings are growing, the roads are being laid ... A photo report allows you to capture these changes better. "A fleeting moment, stay, you're just as beautiful as unrepeatable", – and I like to leave those moments in the memory of those who see them with my eyes", – says Vladimir Proshkin, a photoreporter and correspondent of the agency as well.

**Another agency correspondent, Julia Lepikhova is the youngest member of the team, she is just graduating from the master's degree program. The very first Yulia's big article won an international competition**



# INFORM

agency

**“We decided to go further. Soon a section for English-speaking readers will appear on the CIA website – a specific digest of the main news interesting to a foreign reader. The editorship is ready for this step**

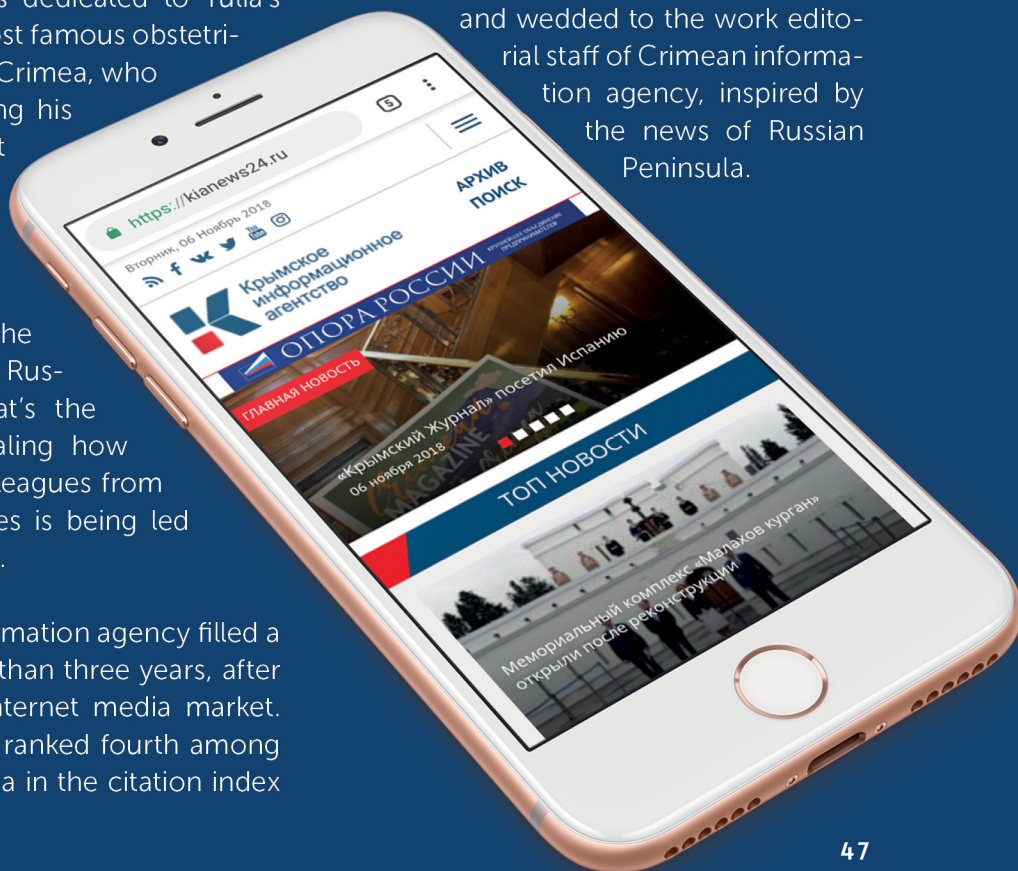
Another agency correspondent, Julia Lepikhova is the youngest member of the team, she is just graduating from the master’s degree program. The very first Yulia’s big article won an international competition. The article was dedicated to Yulia’s grandfather – the most famous obstetrician-gynecologist in Crimea, who died while performing his official duties. But Julia did not receive the main competition prize – a trip to Hungary: Hungary does not recognize the Crimea as part of the Russian Federation. That’s the minor way of revealing how the policy of the colleagues from the Western countries is being led towards the Republic.

The Crimean information agency filled a worthy niche in less than three years, after entering the busy Internet media market. In mid-2018 the CIA ranked fourth among all the Crimean media in the citation index

according to the rating of the “Medialogia” monitoring system. The CIA also has its pages in social networks, in Youtube, which is in a geometrical proportion increasing the views number, which means that the Crimea interests everyone all over the world.

“We decided to go further. Soon a section for English-speaking readers will appear on the CIA website – a specific digest of the main news interesting to a foreign reader. The editorship is ready for this step. And I think that this new column will be highly sought after”, – said Maria Volkonskaya, director of the SBI of the Republic of Crimea “Editorial office of the “Crimean newspaper”.

The CIA is convinced that news from Crimea will become more accessible to the entire globe with the help of a mobile and wedded to the work editorial staff of Crimean information agency, inspired by the news of Russian Peninsula.





# Norwegian public figures persuade the politicians of their country to visit Crimea

**Norwegian public figures are trying to convince the politicians of their country to visit the Republic of Crimea. This was announced today by Hendrik Weber, the founder of the public organization "People's Diplomacy. Norway", during a meeting in Simferopol with Vladimir Konstantinov, the chairman of the State Council of Crimea.**

"We are trying to convince our politicians to come to Crimea. But they have a very strict political directive – not to visit the "occupied" region. I think that many politicians want to come to Crimea", – Weber said.

According to him, the politicians of the Kingdom of Norway know that the referendum of 2014 was legal, but they cannot accept it officially. At the same time, besides



politicians, the ordinary citizens of Norway want to know the truth and are interested in alternative information about Crimea as well.

Weber noted that the organization that he represents is trying to take as many people as possible to Crimea to break through the information blockade.



# American media are in no mood for Crimea due to their obsession with internal problems – member of the US delegation

American media do not talk about Crimea because of the greater interest in domestic political problems. Such an opinion was voiced at a press conference in Simferopol by Michael Metz, a member of the US delegation, former director of the Cisco computer company.

“Unfortunately, the American mass media do not look at Crimea. We would like them to focus and talk about what is happening in a comprehensible for people way. But I do not think that the media in America is looking at Crimea now, they do not pay much attention to it. They are more concerned with local issues”, – Metz noted.

He added that the members of the delegation of the American Center for Civil Initiatives saw “an excellent school, people and a free press” in Crimea. “This is not shown in America. Not because they (journalists) lie about it but because they are not concerned about it”, – concluded Metz.

A delegation from the United States visited Crimea early in the fall of 2018. It consisted of representatives from various fields of activity including legal, political and IT.

Let us recall that in the summer of 2018 a delegation of businessmen from Slovakia visited the Republic of the Crimea. A proposal for investments in tourism, agriculture, shipbuilding and the wine cluster was made in the framework of the working meeting with the Government of Crimea.

The Slovakia Foreign Ministry said earlier that they would not prevent businessmen from visiting Crimea, despite the outrage of the Ukrainian diplomatic mission in Bratislava. Peter Marchek, the deputy of the National Council, who is the head of the group, said that the purpose of the trip was to get acquainted with the situation in Crimea and to establish the relations.





**OPINION**  
to the point

# Sergey Aksyonov:

**We defeat the blockade  
by honesty  
and hospitality**

Interview: Emil' Garibyanov

The Head of the Republic of Crimea, Chairman of the Council of Ministers Sergey Aksyonov in an exclusive interview to the "CM" told about the cooperation of government and media representatives, countersanctions and information blockage, as well as about the political harassment of journalists in Ukraine and the threats directed against the Crimeans.

- Do the sanctions affect the work of the local Crimean and federal media on the peninsula? What are the actions of the republican government in return?

- Sanctions didn't cause the Crimea any major impact or shock. It relates both to the economy of the peninsula and the work of media in the region.

We started our countersanctions with self-improvement. Today, 466 different

media outlets are registered in Crimea and Sevastopol, starting from print publications and radio to television and Internet portals. Only one radio channel and one television channel worked at the STRBC "Crimea" in 2014. Today, five media resources are registered on the basis of the TV and radio company. "First Crimean", "Crimea 24" and TRC "Millet" are broadcast throughout most of Russia and even abroad by means of satellite broadcasting. The state-run print and electronic media



## OPINION to the point

are working successfully – the Crimean newspaper, the Crimean magazine and the Crimean information agency.

We have reconstructed the buildings and facilities where our media are located, as well as the technical re-equipment according to the latest standards.

The number of cable operators operating in the mainland of Russia which include Crimean channels into their packages is increasing every month. Last year alone, the number of cable operators has doubled. The high-quality digital signal became available to 95% of the population of Crimea by the end of 2018.

An information breakthrough that we have achieved in last few years has allowed the media space of Crimea to be brought to a qualitatively new technological level. This is an important condition for the successful delivery of information in the modern world.

**- Energy blockade, water blockade and information blockade. What does the republic's government do to break the information one? (considering that the Crimean journalists are not allowed to Europe).**

- We win by honesty and hospitality. We invite all the adequate politicians, journalists and public figures to visit our republic and see for themselves how the Crimeans live and what the Crimeans tell. Otherwise it turns out: "I never visited Crimea, but still I condemn it".

By the way, despite all the obstacles, Crimean journalists recently spoke at the OSCE conference on human rights in War-



saw, and told how the life has changed in the Russian Crimea, how the Crimean rights were violated for over twenty years and how the media space became forcibly Ukrainized.

To a certain extent it is even ridiculous to talk about the information blockade. A great number of events on all-Russian and international level are held in Crimea: forums, conferences, festivals where parliamentarians, politicians, businessmen and public figures from many countries of the world participate. This includes France, Italy, Germany, USA, Japan, China, Israel, Poland and other states. In many respects the information blockade has already been broken thanks to public diplomacy and personal contacts.

Journalists from major world media such as the American newspaper "Washington Post", the Arabic "Al Jazeera" and the Chinese television channel "China Global" came to Crimea just before the elections on March 18, 2018. The government of the republic constantly cooperates with the representatives of foreign media accredited with the Russian Foreign Ministry.



БУДУЩЕЕ РОССИИ

FUTURE WORLD  
RUSSIA

БУДУЩЕЕ МИРА. БУДУЩЕЕ РОССИИ

In 2017, "the Crimean Magazine" began to be published in English - our honest answer to the Western agitprop.

Today, the farsighted European politicians stand for the lifting of sanctions and international recognition of Crimea as part of Russia. In the end, the American establishment and European politicians will have to realize that sanctions and blockade will not bring the expected result. They will play for time but never stop the inevitable.

**- Please make a comment on the statements that accuse the Russian and Crimean authorities of restricting free speech and violation of media rights?**

They are just as honest as the statements that Crimea is Ukraine and Sevastopol is the capital of Ukrainian sailors.

The only limit to the media work is the legislation of the Russian Federation. This means that the media are prohibited from spreading the information that calls for terrorist activities, extremism, as well as promoting xenophobia and violence. Along comes a full list of criminal offenses. These issues are addressed to Roskomnadzor, law enforcement and judicial authorities.

We have none of political repressions for journalists as it happens across the West and Ukraine.



## OPINION to the point

Let's take for example the famous American organization Freedom House. It is funded by almost 80% from the US government, it interviews experts who haven't visited Crimea and have absolutely no information. Instead these experts are biased, they have the necessary political color and use anti-Russian declamation. What kind of confidence can be there to such organizations and to their statements?

At the same time, they completely ignore the fact that a journalist in Ukraine is a high-threat profession. Just recall the fate of journalist Vasily Muravitsky who was accused of treason, or war correspondent Ruslan Kotsaba who claimed that there was a civil war in the Donbas, or Kiev journalists Dmitry Vasilets and Evgeny Timonin who were sent to the detention center for reporting on the lies of Ukrainian television.

The lives of the writer Oles Buzina and the TV journalist Pavel Sheremet were tragically cut short. This is the price of free speech in Ukraine.

### **- How is the process of cooperation of Crimean media with regional and federal authorities established?**

- In the closest way. Almost all federal media have their own press centers in Crimea. A branch of the All-Russian State Television and Radio Broadcasting Company, the STRBC "Tavrida" was founded in Simferopol at the end of July.

In the Crimea each authority, whether it is a regional ministry or a division of the federal authority, has its own press services which actively interact with all media. In such a way works the Ministry of Internal Policy, Information and Communications, responsible for the development of the information sphere, including the improvement of the quality of interaction with the press.

The media is a sensitive barometer of public moods, it actively reflects the important social changes. I learn from the press about some alarming trends, problems and social reactions. And I am extremely grateful to them for honesty and objectiveness.

**Ukraine is systematically fighting an information war against the Crimeans. An obviously criminal website "Peacemaker" operates under the support of the National Security Service of Ukraine and the Ukrainian security forces, and publishes the personal data, including the data of Russian journalists**



## OPINION to the point

**- The info war is still ongoing. Sometimes the Crimean journalists receive the threats, as well as from Ukraine: to be added to the list and the like. How do the republican authorities respond to it?**

Ukraine is systematically fighting an information war against the Crimeans. There an obviously criminal website "Peacemaker" operates under the support of the National Security Service of Ukraine and the Ukrainian security forces, and publishes the personal data, including the data of the Russian journalists.

The Investigation Committee has materials about the threats of physical violence against journalists working in the Crimea and members of their families. The criminal proceedings were opened based such facts and the investigative actions are conducted.

The Investigation Committee has materials about the threats of physical violence against journalists working in Crimea and members of their families



Photo: Darya Samsonova





A lot of our journalists are target of unprecedented restrictions and censorship in Ukraine and in the EU counties. They are systematically constrained: blacklisted, not accredited, the broadcasting of TV and radio channels is suspended, they are physically detained and even being deported. It is improper, or, rather, unprofitably in Europe to tell the truth about Crimea and Russia, about the Nazis who came to power and the civil war in Ukraine. This is not just an absurd, it is pathology.

Another example is the arrests of journalists, of Kirill Vyshinsky, the executive editor of RIA News Ukraine, in particular. A special story is with dumping of "fake" news and heightening the hysteria. The last example is the spreading the false information about the situation in Armyansk, in order to destabilize the situation in Crimea. But nothing worked.



Photo: Mihail Gladchuk

## **Detlef Wimmer – Linz deputy mayor (Austria)**

"It appears to me that the political decisions that are far away from relationships of our countries' citizens are predominating now. It's just the matter of time before the sanctions are lifted and the active interaction and economic cooperation are started. Personally I see Crimea as the region with immense natural resources and welcoming people. And definitely the peninsula has a lot of active businessmen, and all the worse are the artificial barriers-sanctions that obstruct the development of human potential. There's no need to think far ahead to see what Crimea be like in the future. It's enough to see how many changes have been done just in one year".



**NEW LIFE**  
media family

# A branch of the Russian largest media holding was opened in Crimea



## Nickolay Dolgachev: Developing dynamically

Text: Maria SAVINA

Director of the STRC “Tavrida”  
Nickolay Dolgachev told about  
the mode of “open doors”, Kiev  
“cannibals” and dreams about the  
broadcast from Khreschatyk.

**- Is it comfortable for journalists and  
media to work in Crimea? What about  
the freedom of speech?**

- We started broadcasting a short time  
ago, but during this time there were several  
sensational events in Crimea. Therefore,  
it is already possible to make conclusions.  
Nobody is putting pressure on us, there are





## NEW LIFE media family

no restrictions. We receive information from all the services – both federal and regional – without any problems: our reporters do not have to make any super efforts, to take photos under cover, and so on. Even private enterprises – for instance the “Crimean Titan” – readily open their doors for our correspondents. There were no signals or requests not to show something or not to say something on behalf the authorities as well. Moreover we do not depend (financially or organizationally) on the republican authorities, being a branch of the Moscow structure. Nevertheless, there was not the slightest attempt to influence our media activity. And this mode of “open doors” is good news.

### **- What projects is the STRC “Tavrida” proud of today?**

- This is “Vesti-Crimea” – a TV news release with broadcasting coverage of the entire Republic of Crimea. This is our main and central project. All the rest are additional ones. We started with two releases a day and at first the coverage was only the Simferopol and Simferopol region. Its four 15-minute releases now, all are being broadcast live, the broadcast area has covered the whole Crimea. Every Sunday, a 40-minute final release of “Vesti-Crimea: events of the week” comes out. In other words, we are developing dynamically and we are planning to further increase the volume of information broadcasting.

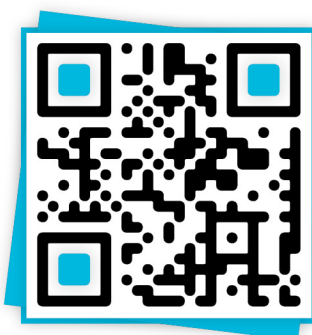
### **- Certainly, the launch of the television company “from zero” as they say was complicated by the sanctions?**

- I am more engaged in the creative component. I

RSTRC is the largest Soviet and Russian state media holding. It was founded by the Decree of the Presidium of the Supreme Soviet of the RSFSR dated July 14, 1990. Today the corporation includes the TV channels “Russia 1”, “Russia 2”, “Russia Culture”, “Russia 24”, “RTR-Planeta”, more than 80 regional TV companies, as well as the radio stations “Mayak”, “Vesti FM”, “Radio Russia”, “Radio Culture” and a number of Internet projects

didn't go deeply in technical aspect. But back in 2014, when the events on Kiev's Maidan were only picking up speed, it was already clear that we had different paths to follow with the “comrades” who seized the power in Kiev. And while the European countries and the United States favored the “cannibals”, it does not grace them.

I do not see the point in being concerned about the fact that the “cannibals” and those who sympathize with them announced some sanctions to us. But I really hope that someday we will be able to make the broadcast from Khreschatyk and to talk to nice Kievans, who will hug us and be glad that we are together again.



[www.vesti-k.ru](http://www.vesti-k.ru)



**NATIONAL  
TV**

# “Millet”

**the youngest and colorful  
TV channel of Crimea**

The Crimean Tatar TV and radio company “Millet” is the youngest and colorful project in Crimea with the unique content. Moreover, they say that the “Millet” team is trying to be the channel not only for the Crimean Tatars but also to cooperate with all the nations that live in peace and quiet in Crimea and these are 170 nations. By the way

“Millet” is just working on the development of a TV program “Inflorescence of cultures” which will be oriented towards inter-ethnic and interreligious cooperation, it will unveil the culture of each and every nation in Crimea. But one of the biggest challenges is the preservation of the native language, culture of the Crimean Tatars and national color.

**LET'S RECALL:**



*“Public Crimean Tatar TV and Radio Company” was founded in accordance with the Regulation of the Council of Ministers of the Republic of Crimea dated June 09, 2015 No. 507-p within the Decree of the President of the Russian Federation on rehabilitation of the Crimean Tatar, Armenian, German, Greek and other peoples of Crimea.*



**NATIONAL  
TV**





# NATIONAL TV

The broadcast schedule of the TV channel includes five unique newscasts (“Haberler”) in two languages, five short information formats “Haberler. Breaking news” and end-of-the-week newscasts “Haberler. Week” and “Haberler. Afta” on the weekends. Despite being very young and quite small editorial staff, the news created by “Millet” editorship are always popular

The TV channel “Millet” (interpreted from the Crimean Tatar as the Peoples or the Nation) was created fully from zero point just in 3 months on the fourth floor of the media center in Simferopol.

The broadcast schedule of the TV channel includes five unique newscasts (“Haberler”) in two languages, five short information formats “Haberler. Breaking news” and end-of-the-week newscasts “Haberler. Week” and “Haberler. Afta” on the weekends. Despite being very young and quite small editorial staff, the news created by “Millet” editorship are always popular.

Vast broadcasting network of the TV channel allows tracking the peninsula’s life not only for the viewers of Crimea but also for residents of all Russia, Uzbekistan, Belarus and Ukraine: media resource is available for analog broadcast and digital network (third multiplex) OAO “RTRS”, in Crimean cable and IP-networks, through satellite Yamal-401, as well as with the help of the popular Smart TV application: Vintera. TV, Peers.tv, Divan.tv and others.

In addition to the main engine of any TV channel – news on the channel, the editorship of art programs is actively







working. Starting with the first day of broadcasting, every weekday begins with the live program “Saba” (“Good Morning”) with interesting guests, entertaining and informative headings that lasts an hour and a half. The projects “Hash tag, Ishte” and “Crimea mania” tell about the unique locations, fascinating activities and inimitable events of the peninsula.

The musical projects such as the cross-project “Chalgiji Live” are devoted to cultural revival: every week the studio of the radio station “Vatan Sedasi” is visited by musicians and they play live old and modern Crimean Tatar melodies on the air, moreover the video version is broadcast on the channel on Thursdays. And for more grown-up audience there is the project “Yaylya Boyu!”, whose guests in the hour program talk about musical traditions and the role of music in the life of the Crimean Tatars.

**Ervin Musaev,  
Director General:**

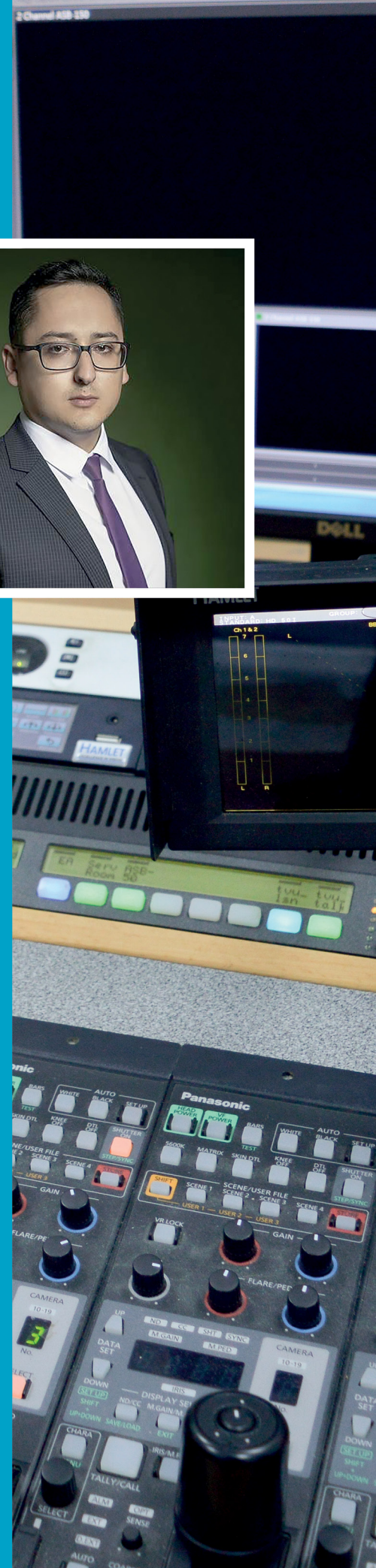
***“The third birthday of the TV channel “Millet” was exactly on 1st September, 2018: from the starting point and by this day the media resource covers the social, political, economic and cultural life of the Crimeans. The TV channel broadcasts twenty four seven, with approximately 5 hours of own unique content. It includes documentaries about the great representatives of the Crimean Tatar people. Programs for the intensive studying of Crimean Tatar language are being launched. We are proud of such product.”***



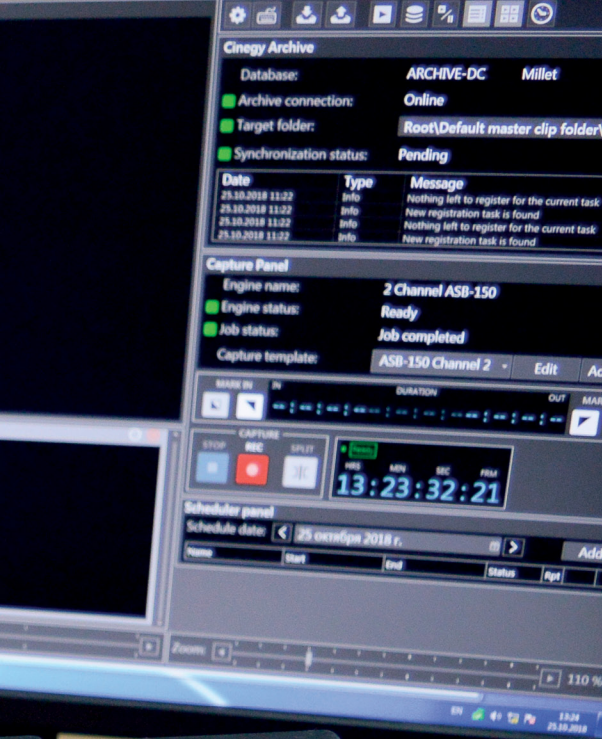
## NATIONAL TV

### **Asan Abibulaev, managing editor of information and analytics editorship:**

*“You’ve got cool caught on TV”. This is about me. I’ve never thought that I’ll be working on TV. I used to engage my life with languages. Graduated the Romano-Germanic philology. English and German languages. Worked abroad. But when in 2014 I came back home and had no idea what to do next I was proposed to try myself in the Crimean Tatar editorship on the “First Crimean” TV channel. First I learnt how to cover. Then I was tried on the newscast. Surely it never occurred to me that it would drag me in so much. And then there came a new TV channel “Millet”. The trick of the news itself is that it’s very special. You can study it lifelong. The world is changing rapidly. Every time there’s something new, new TV trends. The drive of always keeping your eyes open is the main energy drink. Talking generally about editorship, we’ve got team of professional “newsmen” formed. In this period we were trained by top specialists and leading masters of not only Crimea but all the Russia. A lot of changes happened in the new life and history of the Crimea. And our task is to cover it quickly and properly. It’s pretty cool to be in the spot of all these events and to breathe the peninsula’s life”.*







## NATIONAL TV

Social and political projects "Achyk Laf" ("Open Talk"), "The Crimean Consensus" and "Our Right" discuss with the studio guests the topical issues from various spheres of society every week.

The channel bears in mind the spiritual component of life as well: every Friday there comes a project on Islam "Kadymlar Aleml" ("Women's World"); and in the Muslim holy month of Ramadan - the project "Meraba, Ramadan!" goes every night on the air.

In the Crimean Tatar language a project for the young generation was created "Mamateke" ("Dandelion") is broadcast by children.

In addition to the main content the TV channel creates documentaries about famous figures among the Crimean Tatars, cognitive, thematic and cultural programs of short timing.

The younger brother of the TV channel "Millet" is the radio "Vatan Sedasi" that is only a year and a half old, but still is equally popular among listeners. In English translation the name of the radio station means "Voice of the people".

### **Sevilla Emiralieva, Deputy Director General for TV and RB:**

***"ANO "OCTRC" is very different from most regional TV and radio companies that I managed to cooperate with. A small and very young team of 150 people manages to create numerous, unique projects that are so important for preserving the culture and language of the Crimean Tatar people. People who work here are glowing with enthusiasm".***



**TRUTH**  
uncensored

# Crimean journalists were not allowed to speak at OSCE session devoted to the freedom of speech in the Crimea

**Crimean Tatar journalist published the appeal  
to the OSCE conference participants in three languages**



# TRUTH

uncensored



Annually the Office for Democratic Institutions and Human Rights (ODIHR) is organizing The Human Dimension Implementation Meeting. It was held in Warsaw in September 2018 for the 22nd time. Among the agenda: the human rights and democracy issues, in addition specially selected topics on freedom of the media, the rights of migrants and combating racism, xenophobia, intolerance and discrimination.

Delegation of Crimean journalists and public figures arrived in Warsaw to speak on the session devoted to the freedom of the media in the Crimea.

However they were not allowed to speak on the plenary session. The organizers just switched off the microphone after the head

*The reports in three languages can be read through the QR-code*



[www.facebook.com](http://www.facebook.com)



# TRUTH

## uncensored

of the only Crimean Tatar TV and radio company "Millet" in Russia took the floor and said: "I'm Ervin Musaev, the Republic of Crimea, the Russian Federation".

"I officially registered to talk about the events in the Crimea. Canada, Austria and Ukraine stood for stopping my report. My microphone was turned off since I allegedly am a representative of a non-existent entity of Russia", - Musaev says.

He pointed that the other Crimean participants were also planning to speak on the conference. However their reports were not registered. "No one was given a word. The rest were withdrawn even before speaking. I was given the floor but after I introduced myself and said that I was from the Republic of Crimea, the Russian Federation, - these countries declaimed against us", - Ervin noted.

Ukrainian part in its turn called Crimean journalists the propagandists.

Ervin Musaev published his report in three languages. Be it noted in three state languages of the Republic of Crimea: Russian, Ukrainian and Crimean Tatar.

***"The Crimean***

***magazine" quotes***

***the uncensored text***

***of a journalist. You,***


***our dear readership,***

***please come to your***

***own conclusions.***

***Fortunately***

***it is allowed!***



View of the Salgir valley at the village Pionerske.  
At the center one can see the north slopes of the Chatyr-Dag mountain and far away - its upper plateau. [wikipedia.org](http://wikipedia.org)



# TRUTH

uncensored

## Ladies and Gentlemen! Dear colleagues!

I'm Musaev Ervin, the Republic of Crimea, the Russian Federation

I'm Crimean Tatar. I'm the director of "Public Crimean Tatar TV and Radio Company". We employ almost 200 people. Most of them are Crimean Tatars. Our company consists of two media resources: TV channel "Millet" and radio "Vatan Sedasi", there is a site and social media pages.

Our TV and radio company objectively covers the socio-political, economic and cultural life of the Republic of Crimea, is fast in reporting about the events on the peninsula and beyond in two state languages: Russian and Crimean Tatar. The political and public figures meet on our room area, we raise issues topical for the Crimea. At the moment, we are launching new projects to study the Crimean Tatar language, the rural life

Photo: Mihail Gladchuk





# TRUTH

## uncensored

features and children's projects. I'd like to say that our readership suggests us many ideas about the opening of such projects. We have established feedback and we are getting the stories ready from across the Crimea.

I've prepared a brief report on what is actually happening in the Crimea at first hand:

Let's get down to facts.

### FIRST

One of the first decrees signed by the President of the Russian Federation V.V. Putin relating to the Crimea was the Decree No. 268 dated 21.04.2014 "On measures to rehabilitate the Armenian, Bulgarian, Greek, Italian, Crimean Tatar and German peoples and to provide State support for their revival and development". This Decree presupposed not only the moral satisfaction which definitely was necessary and for which we have been waiting for 70 years but the fair financial solution as well. At the time of the spring 2014 many localities – areas of compact settlements of the Crimean Tatars had no gas, light, water and roads. There were no medical stations, schools and kindergartens. And all this happens in 21st century.

It's not just the words – it's the destinies of tens of thousands of people – my home people, relatives and friends!

### SECONDLY

Adopted Constitution of the Republic of Crimea in 2014 became a byword of "historical unity of nations" of the peninsula. Since the article No. 10 of the Constitution states that the Russian, Ukrainian and Crimean Tatar languages are the state languages of the Republic of Crimea. The Crimean Tatars have been waiting for it for 70 years – today the laws and regulations are issued in the native language, the children are able to study in their native language.

### SIMPLE STATISTICS:

- no water supply networks in **31 settlements**;
- no electrical supply networks in **20 settlements**;
- no gas supply networks in **101 settlements**;
- no sewerage networks in **208 settlements**;
- no hard surface roads in **142 settlements**.

And only the Russian Crimea at the suggestions of cities and regions has formed and approved the list of 74 capital construction objects, the implementation of which in the period of up to 2020 will allow establishing favorable conditions for people.

- to provide homeownership to nearly 2000 families of rehabilitated peoples of Crimea (19 multistory housing construction objects);

**And only the Russian Crimea at the suggestions of cities and regions has formed and approved the list of 74 capital construction objects, the implementation of which in the period of up to 2020 will allow establishing favorable conditions for people**



# TRUTH

## uncensored

- to bring into operation 7 kindergartens for 1575 persons;
- to bring into operation 3 secondary schools for 1080 persons;
- to provide electrical supply networks to 5000 families (12 objects);
- to provide water supply networks to 4100 families (9 objects);
- to provide gas supply networks to 3300 families (10 objects);
- to provide sewerage networks to 2000 families (5 objects);
- to provide hard surface roads to 2100 families (9 objects);
- 1 center of multiethnic culture.

From December 2016 to the present moment about 50 capital construction objects are being implemented to various stages of completion. Several Crimean areas in locations of compact settlements of Crimean Tatars have already been provided with gas network. Over 1000 families are provided with electrical supply networks. The kindergartens and schools have been already built.

I'd like to say that the Crimea hasn't seen such volumes and speed of construction for decades.

The pride of all Crimea is the new terminal of the international Simferopol airport which has burst the doors open this year. And the pride of all country is the Crimean Bridge. It was daydreamt a century and a half ago but they managed to conquer the elements only in 2018. The bridge length is 19 km and it is the longest one in Europe. This is the dream of all the Crimeans and this dream is our present-day reality!

On an annual basis the apartments are provided to the families of rehabilitated peoples of Crimea. And the number of provided apartments for the last 5 years exceeds the number of provided apartments for 23 years of Ukrainian period.

**On an annual basis the apartments are provided to the families of rehabilitated peoples of Crimea. And the number of provided apartments for the last 5 years exceeds the number of provided apartments for 23 years of Ukrainian period**







Photo: Lidia Vietkhova



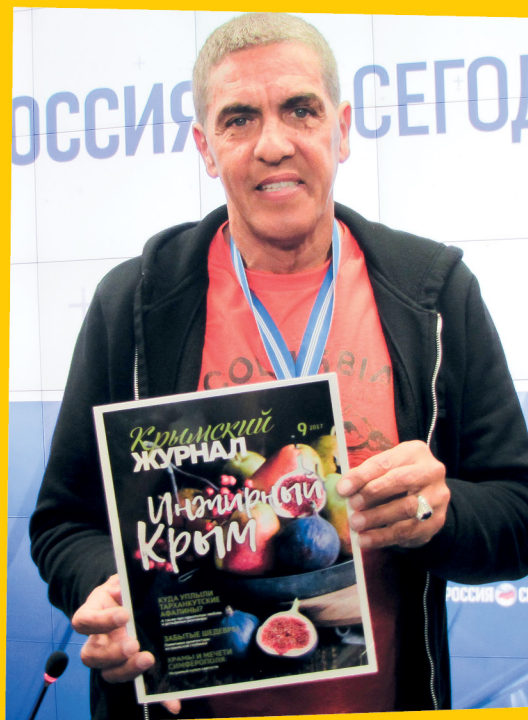
## TRUTH uncensored

Answer my question: which of you is forbidden to come to the Crimea? And if not forbidden then why you're not coming? Come over. We have already had guests from Germany, Slovakia, the Czech Republic, Austria, the Philippines, Turkey and African countries. Talk to people, see how the peninsula has changed. Compare. Analyze. Let's be professionals and be objective!

Great support is given to the development of national and cultural autonomies. Vast amount of money is allocated for projects implemented by organizations.

To resolve the land issue, the land plots are provided for citizens being in the Citizens' Register who chose location of a land plot for individual housing construction by its actual reserving before the adoption of the Federal Constitutional Law No. 6-FKZ dated March 21, 2014 "On Admitting to the Russian Federation the Republic of Crimea and the City of the Federal Importance Sevastopol". Note the fact that by legal means not by squatting which was led by individual figures.

Crimean Magazine



### Sami Naseri –

French actor, most famous for his starring role in the “Taxi” film



Photo: Mihail Gladchuk

### Nikos Bardumias – journalist from Greece





The Karaites kenesa in Simferopol after reconstruction

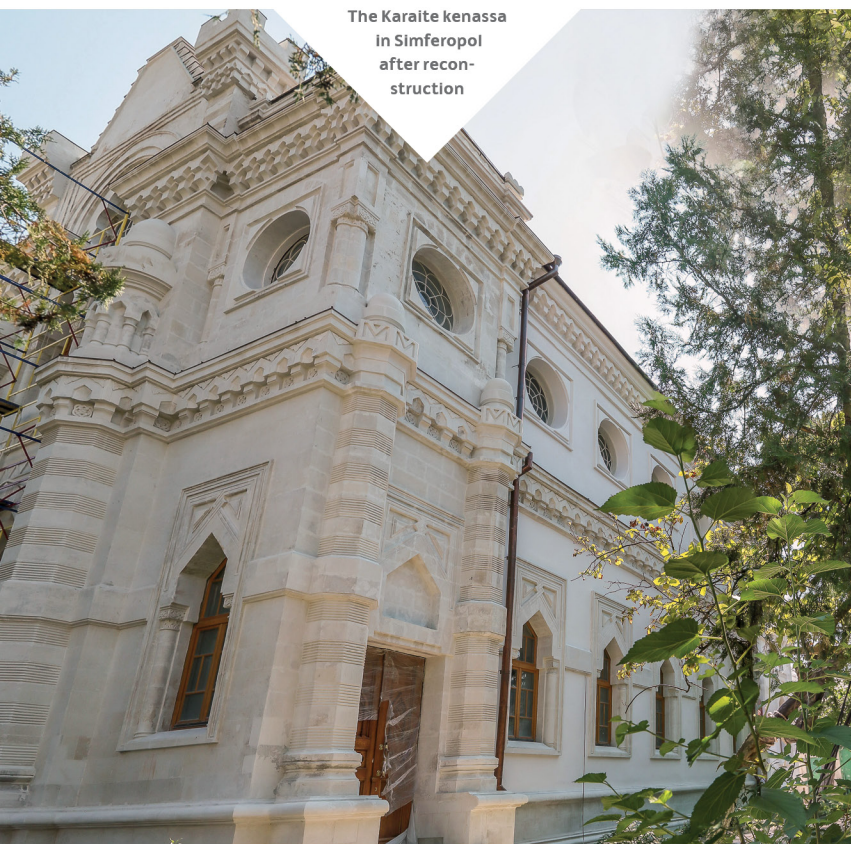


Photo: Lidia Vietkhova

The construction of the Cathedral Mosque in Simferopol, as well as of the memorial site for the victims of the deportation from the Crimea in the village of Siren, Bakhchysarai district was started In 2016. Completion of the construction is scheduled for 2019.

I can not but note that the construction of the Orthodox cathedral of Alexander Nevsky

The pace of constructions and social support is very high. For the first time in years the Crimeans could feel the state care.

in Simferopol is coming to an end; moreover the reconstruction of the Karaites Kenesa has started for the first time since the 50s of the last century.

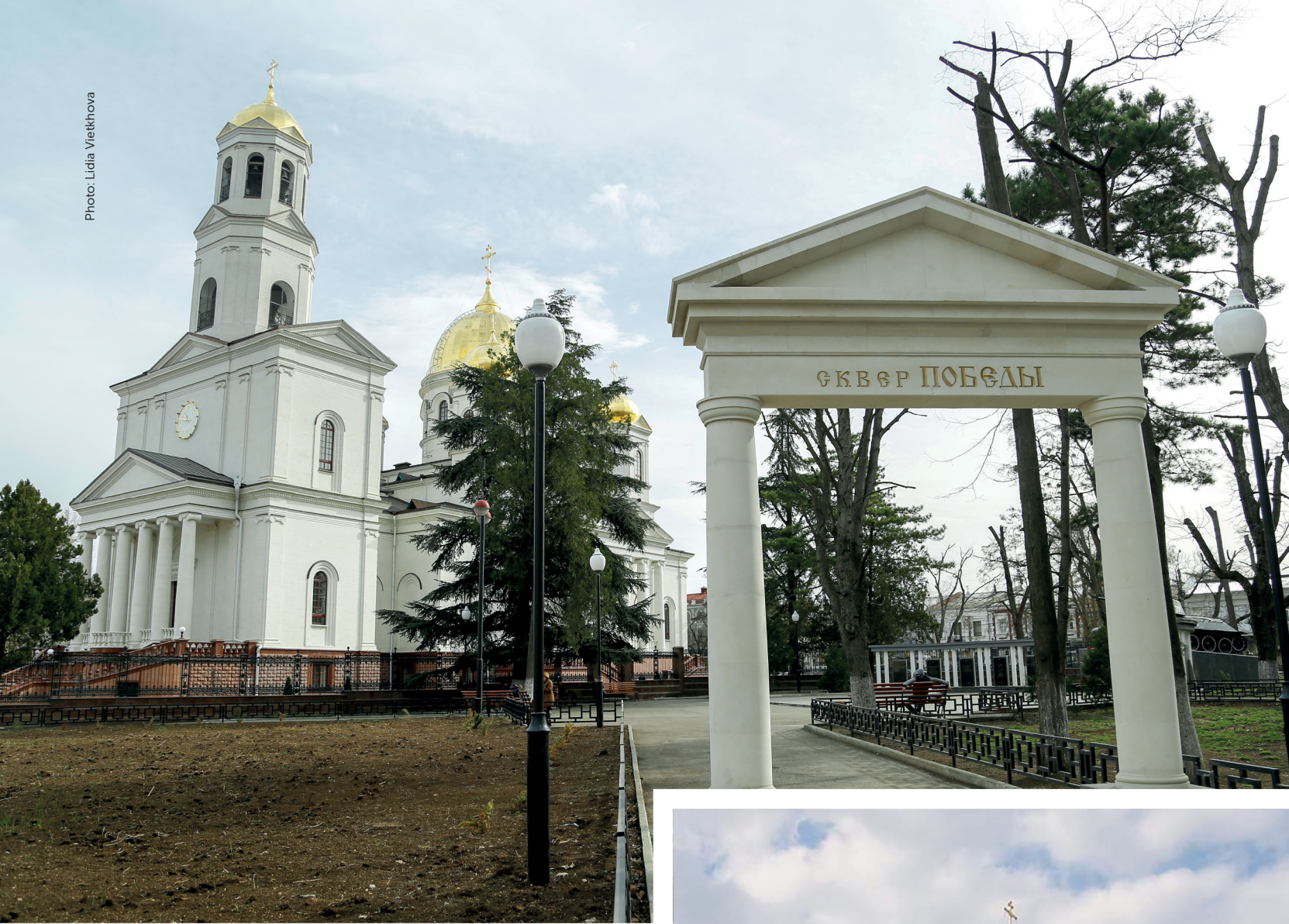
The pace of constructions and social support is very high. For the first time in years the Crimeans could feel the state care.

Ladies and gentlemen, friends, colleagues. Right now we are discussing the vital issue concerning my HOMELAND, my family and relatives, friends and the future of the Crimea. I'm sorry if I've been overemotional.

Answer my question: which of you is forbidden to come to the Crimea? And if not forbidden then why you're not coming? Come over. We have already had guests from Germany, Slovakia, the Czech Republic, Austria, the Philippines, Turkey and African countries. Talk to people, see how the peninsula has changed. Compare. Analyze. Let's be professionals and be objective!

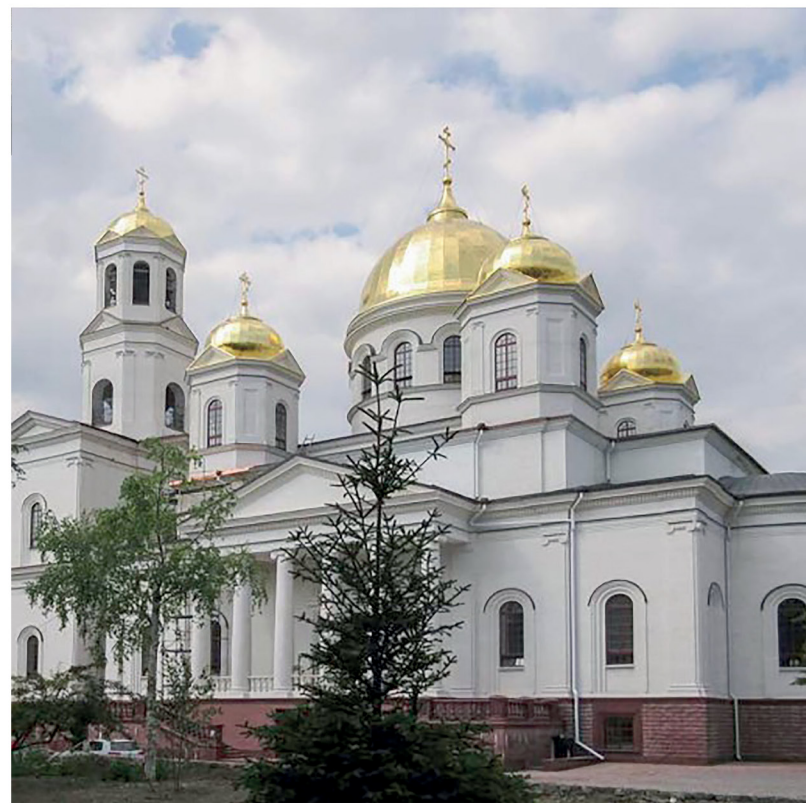
How did it come that respected international organizations had violated the fundamental principle – objectivity? Instead of a





comprehensive and impartial analysis of the situation – you consume surrogate of speculations and insinuations. Come over! Taste the wind of positive change and progression together with the aroma of real coffee which is the traditional treat of the Crimean Tatars! See for yourselves! Not from hearsay! Restore your broken trust because we have a common task, which is by the way recorded in the charter of your organization: - supporting relaxation of international tension!

Come over to the Crimea! The world must hear the real truth about the Crimea and its inhabitants. The Crimeans deserve at least to be heard!







# They did not choose to hear the Crimea

**Director General of the TV and Radio Company “Crimea”,  
Director General of the agency “Kryminform” and  
the head of the Sevastopol Union of Journalists were  
planning to come to Vienna to the OSCE meeting on  
freedom of speech. They registered according to the  
rules but didn’t receive the entry permit.**



**Ekaterina Kozyr, director general  
of ANO “TRC” (from 2014 to 2018):**  
“The aggravated cynicism is that it were  
not us who wanted to come, it was the  
OSCE that sent us an invitation which  
guaranteed us the presence; we fulfilled  
all the conditions that were set to us in  
accordance with the roadmap”.



A trip to Europe for Ekaterina and Maxim ended on threshold of the Austrian embassy; by the way it is this country’s chairing the OSCE now. A small clerk voiced the statement of rejection.



# TRUTH

## uncensored



**Maxim Nikolaenko, director general of “Kryminform”:** “The girl in the window modestly offered: for visas receiving — to Kiev. Because Crimea is Ukrainian in their opinion”.

The refusal of visas receiving and the ban on participation in the conference is an insult to all Crimean journalists. At that time Ekaterina headed the largest TV Company and Maxim — the leading Internet portal of the peninsula.

**Ekaterina Kozyr:** “The freedom of speech is over. Initially, no one was planning to let us go there. Europe proved to be not ready to hear the opinion of the Crimeans working and living in Crimea”.

**Ekaterina Kozyr:** “Unfortunately, they did not want to hear Crimea personally, so they are forced to contact you through modern technologies. We have 176 nationalities, that’s the way the things are done in our large Crimean world — we hug, we listen and we accept an opinion which, perhaps, differs from yours. Europe, just follow our example”.



“Visa discrimination” for the Crimeans lasts the fourth year long. Refusals are delivered as soon as they see the Crimean residence permit in the embassies of the EU countries.

The standard statement in any of the European embassies in case of refusal to receive Schengen for the Crimeans is: “Contact our embassy in Kiev”. However, it’s not all that simple. There are some options if include the corruption component: fly-by-night companies are working at the embassies, and by paying 50–100 thousand rubles, it is possible to get the cherished Schengen visa easily.





**“Being registered under all OSCE rules, they did not receive Austrian visas. We consider this a mistake, because, as a matter of fact, the participants in the meeting are deprived of the opportunity to see the picture in its comprehensive dimension. Our representatives of Crimea and Sevastopol could not tell the world community the truth about the real situation on the peninsula”.**

## **Lavrov: Moscow is disappointed with the position of Austria which did not issue visas to Crimean journalists**

The refusal in visas obtaining to journalists from Crimea was commented by Foreign Minister of Russia Sergey Lavrov. He said that Moscow is disappointed with the position of Austria.

The journalists from Crimea were registered as participants in the OSCE meeting on the topic “The Role of the Free Media in the Comprehensive Approach to Security” in Vienna in November 2017. Nevertheless, they did not receive visas.

Lavrov stressed that such actions are unacceptable, since Crimean journalists were subjected to “discrimination and de facto collective punishment” for the choice they made in 2014, when Crimea entered the Russian Federation.





Crimea. Foros church.



# ***Honest we stand!***

OR A LIE PILL

**Text: Maria SAVINA**

**Dmitry Polonsky was at the headwaters of renewal of the Crimean mass media after the return of the peninsula to Russia.**

**He assumed the position of Minister of Information and Mass Communications of the RC in March 2014, and from October of the same year to June 2018 Dmitry Polonsky held the position of Deputy Chairman of the Council of Ministers of the Crimea - Minister of Domestic Politics, Information and Communication. Today, the Vice-Prime-Minister of the RC in an exclusive interview to the Crimean Magazine told about the development and prospects of the mass media of the peninsula and presented his winning formula in the information war, with Crimea as the epicenter in recent years.**

**- How has the Crimean mass media changed in the last few years?**

- The field of the Crimean media has seriously changed since 2014, i.e. since the integration of the peninsula into the Russian Federation. And these are not only quantitative changes but above all the qualitative ones. The procedure for media registration and functioning under the Ukrainian legislation was regulated differently than in Russia. At that time the approach to it was, let's say, chaotic. Anyone could create a website and spread any information there. What is more, this information was wrong and the websites were often created under some political projects. If at the early 2014 about three thou-



## ABOUT infowar

sand media organizations were registered in Crimea, in reality less than three hundred actually operated. Today, 466 media organizations are registered and are operating. These include all types of media: television, radio and print media. At the same time, the part of the territorially Crimean mass media organizations are registered as all-Russian, which makes it possible to spread information not only in Crimea but also throughout the whole country.

Official republican media pool is one of the largest Crimean media. In particular, we have the TV and radio company "Crimea" which combines today five media outlets – two TV channels and three radio stations – is operating in the updated form. Another information holding was created on the basis of "The Crimean newspaper", which includes not only "The Crimean newspaper" itself but also "The Crimean magazine" and the Crimean Information Agency. It is especially pleasant that "The Crimean magazine" has both Russian-language version and an English-language version as well, which is actively distrib-

**Judging by our republican media, the level of technical equipment and the organizational level where they operate cannot be compared with those in the Ukrainian Crimea**



uted and has its reader among the foreign audience. We distribute this magazine actively during various international events. And I want to emphasize that our foreign guests are happy to take "The Crimean magazine" to their countries. We are often asked to make versions in German, Italian and French as well. This is a unique kind of Crimean navigator.

### **- How difficult was the process?**

- Definitely the process of transforming the media field was not easy, because in 2014 we had to repurpose the media operation in Russian reality, in the framework of the new legislation. Both journalists, and media founders, and editors experienced certain difficulties. Together we managed to overcome all of them. And I can state that by the end of 2014 Crimea had completely integrated the information space of the Russian Federation. Then and now we adhere to the principle of freedom of speech: neither the relevant ministry (Ministry of Domestic Policy, Information and Communication of the RC - ed.), nor the republican authority interfere with the



## ABOUT infowar

media activities, starting with the registration process and finishing with daily work. We cooperate on an equal terms with all the media and make no distinction, whether it is state-owned or not. During this time, the correspondent offices of almost all federal media have been established in Crimea. We are talking now about both television, and radio, and newspapers, and news agencies.

### **- What about the material and technical resources?**

- Judging by our republican media, the level of technical equipment and the organizational level where they operate, it cannot be compared with those in the Ukrainian Crimea. When I first came to the territory of the TV and Radio Company "Crimea", walked through all the facilities, looked at the conditions and equipment used by the staff, I was totally shocked: it was a stone age! The building of the TV and Radio Company has not seen renovation since the years of 60-70; the equipment was about the same age. There was not a single device, equipment or camera younger than me. People worked in unbearable conditions from bathrooms to studios. It all had a terribly dilapidated look. Employees joked about some unknown civilization that lives under their floors. Today you can come to the territory of the TV and Radio Company "Crimea" and see how it has changed. There is a modern TV production complex with excellent conditions for the work of journalists and technicians, engineers and cameramen. The company has several mobile television stations, the most modern studios. Today the State TV and Radio Company "Crimea" is the only regional TV company in Russia that broadcasts in HD.

Recently, we celebrated the biennium of creating a multimedia republican press center, which has become an open platform where both state and non-state media can operate. During this period, it hosted a lot of different events.

Talking about the technical side of our media operation, then certainly it is worth noting that the RTRN (Russian TV and Radio Broadcasting Network), which broadcasts TV and radio programs throughout Russia, has started to operate in Crimea. We have organized the work of multiplexes. The Crimea is unique in this respect. This is the only region where three multiplexes are functioning, one of which is ours, the republican one, where our regional TV channels are concentrated. We have put the regional TV channels on the satellite.

Naturally, as a rule, the technical side is not visible to viewers, readers or radio listeners, but the audience cannot fail to notice the quality of the final product. The Crimean media operate at a high level; our product, and content are in high demand not only in Crimea, but also outside. Our mass media and journalists are winning at many All-Russian professional competitions, which means that the Crimean mass media operate on the same level with their federal colleagues.

### **- How often do the foreign journalists come to the Crimea? With which interest?**

- The interest of foreign media to what is happening in Crimea is constant. Since 2014 when 2.5 thousand journalists arrived at Crimea to cover the referendum, the overwhelming majority of whom were foreign. This, perhaps, was



## ABOUT infowar

the most open event that you can imagine. Everyone came and saw with own eyes how the Crimeans were choosing their future. In 2018 the journalists from such major world media as the American newspaper "Washington Post", the Arabic "Al Jazeera" and the Chinese TV channel "China Global" came to cover the elections of the president of the Russian Federation in Crimea.

Lots of foreign journalists, more than 400, traditionally arrive to the Yalta Economic Forum. In April, we held successfully the forum "Journalists of Muslim countries for the partnership of civilizations", which was attended by journalists and religious figures from Bahrain, Egypt, Iraq, Iran, Kazakhstan, Kuwait, Bangladesh, Morocco, Algeria, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, Sudan, Syria, Lebanon, Turkey, Uzbekistan, Albania, Indonesia, Yemen, Jordan and the United Arab Emirates. Not a single foreign journalist was rejected neither to hold an interview nor the right of access to a territory of the republic. Firstly, we have no the right to do so by law. Secondly, we ourselves are interested in foreign journalists coming to us and meeting the rapid development of the peninsula.

### **- Foreign colleagues are often talking about strict censorship in Crimea. What is your answer?**

- We are working under the legal environment of the Russian Federation, within the framework of the Constitution. The right to free speech is inviolable, the censorship is prohibited. And when they say that Crimea has a special relationship with the media, this is not true. We can feel this situation if we take a look at what is hap-

pening on the territory of a neighboring state. We know perfectly well that Ukraine is blatantly disregarding these sacred rights, it has limited the right to broadcast Russian television channels on its territory. The Ukrainian side, in the truest sense of the word, has banned the presence on the country territory to a number of Russian mass media - both news agencies and television channels. Take a look at what kind of trials are going on over journalists there. Let us recall at least the last trial over the editorial office of the RIA-news office.

That's why, when we hear their claims, we are at least perplexed. Because such censorship and such harassment of freedom of speech as in Ukraine, the Russian Crimea doesn't have now and never had before. In addition, Crimea is a multinational region. The representatives of more than 175 different nationalities live here and the national media are actively developing and spreading the information in their languages. The mentioned TV and Radio Company "Crimea" includes national editorial board, where all the largest national communities have their own representative offices, their own content and the state provides this right to them. What kind of censorship we can talk about? Our media organizations are working peacefully. But it should be understood that all countries of the world have severe restrictions in the dissemination of information that can cause ethnic hatred, religious intolerance, information that calls for violation of the constitutional system, for violation of the law. All these are tightly suppressed all over the world, and Crimea is no exception. There is a special body - Roskomnadzor which is responsible for this. In this regard, we work



# ABOUT infowar



Photo: Lidia Vietkhnova

in the same boat with both Roskomnadzor and law enforcement agencies.

## - What about the opposition media?

- There are 466 media outlets in Crimea and each of them has its own owner. If they criticize power, that is their right. No one will punish or block them. Once again, the principle of freedom of speech is sacred to us. Moreover we are interested in criticism to highlight some negative points, so that the authorities could pay attention to them and react swiftly. In this regard the journalistic community performs a great job, including definitely social networks.

But at the same time we always remind the Crimeans of the need to know the difference between truth and lies. Such concept as "fake" has become the custom. This is fabricated newsworthy information that pursues political goals. Often their goal is to defame everything that's happening on the territory of the republic. And we see that such information flow is quite high. As a

rule it is broadcast through social networks. Unfortunately, our so-called "Western partners" often abuse the freedom of speech. The example is no far to seek. Let's remember at least the information that Vladimir Putin "hunted Amur tigers". As proof, a photo was published where the president was standing next to the immobilized, supposedly dead predator. Of course, there was no hunting and the picture was taken during a visit to one of the natural parks by Vladimir Putin. Putin is doing everything possible to save the population of Amur tigers. And the animal at the photo was immobilized in order to attach a migration tracing sensor to it.

A huge amount of fake news was created concerning the Crimean Bridge and its construction. Starting from the fact that there is no bridge, that all these are the decorations of Mosfilm and ending with the fact that its two sides will never converge; that our ecological situation has deteriorated because of the construction - and dolphins are beaching themselves, and the fish population has decreased; and in general the bridge is of poor quality and can crack at any moment, and so on. But still, the Crimean Bridge is already passing the traffic of dozens of thousands of cars, and you can watch it stand from any satellite image. And the most trustless can come and become personally certain.

## - How do you deal with that?

- We cannot regulate the activity of our colleagues from foreign media or information in social networks. We just have to do our job, to tell the truth about Crimea, the Crimeans and those changes that are happening on the peninsula. Take a look at that beautiful airport built in Crimea!



## ABOUT infowar

And still there were dozens of fakes even about it. And the "Taurida" route! All the residents of the republic feel the presence of the Russian Federation here: these are hundreds of new schools, kindergartens, renovated hospitals, kilometers of new roads and so on. It is impossible to hide. That's why we just have to tell the truth about what is going on in Crimea. The truth is the best antidote, it is an injection from that lie that is spread by our "well-wishers".

**- Do you react to Ukrainian clones of "Artek", "The Crimean newspaper", Crimean wines and so on?**

- This is a phantom limb pain. We all remember how the information was actively spread about the wonderful camp "Artek" that was created on the Ukrainian territory. And then the social network and the media got photos and videos of this camp, and everyone saw what a misery it was. Just take a look at the superb changes that occurred in recent years at

the real "Artek" in Crimea. Today it is the most modern youth center not only in Russia but throughout the whole world. In a couple of years Russia has reconstructed all that Ukraine has been destroying for decades. And this is happening not only in "Artek" but far and wide! Come to the Crimea, see it with your own eyes. After all, Honest We Stand.

**In a couple of years Russia has reconstructed all that Ukraine has been destroying for decades. And this happens not only in "Artek" but far and wide! Come to Crimea, see it with your own eyes**

According to Roskomnadzor, **86 media outlets** are released in the languages of the peoples of Crimea (except for Russian). The other **23 media outlets** are released in English. Besides, the programs dedicated to the peoples of Crimea are broadcast on the State Television and Radio Company "Crimea". That is, the national programs "Barev", "Elpida", "Elpida+", "Hoffnung", "EtnoKrym", "Milliy Khazine", "Now and Then" reflecting the daily life and cultural characteristics of the Crimean Tatars, Armenians, Bulgarians, Germans and Greeks are broadcast on the TV channels "First Crimean" and "Crimea-24". The programs "Memories of the Future", "Arakal Luysi", "Bulgarian Meetings", "Guzel Kırım", "Dialogue of Cultures", "My Heart is in the Mountains", "Yasu, Krimea", "Rebirth" and "Memory" are broadcast on the radio stations "Crimea" and "Crimea Point".

A media center n.a. I.Gasprinsky has been created to assist the national media. **33** books, **6** newspapers and **4** magazines were financed and published by the republican media center in 2017.

The newspapers were published in the native languages of the peoples of Crimea: the political newspaper "Meraba"; newspaper "Haffnung" (in German) - on a quarterly basis; the magazine "Masis Dove" (in Armenian) - on a quarterly basis; the magazine "Our Crimea" (in Russian), the newspaper "Taurika" (in Greek), the newspaper "Yanydyunya" (in Crimean Tatar), the magazine "Yildyz" (in Crimean Tatar), the newspaper "Bulgarian Bulletin" (in Russian), the magazine "Ana tili" (in Crimean Tatar) - 1 issue; - the newspaper "Yzvor" (in Russian), the newspaper "Cossack Bulletin".

The "Millet" TV channel and the "Vatan Sedasi" radio channel are broadcast on ANO "Public Crimean Tatar TV and Radio Company" (analog, digital and satellite broadcasting in Crimean Tatar and Russian languages. Coverage in analog format is 80% of Crimea, in digital - about 90%)

Since its creation, the "Millet" TV channel has covered the life of the Crimean Tatars and all the Crimeans, the activities of the executive and legislative bodies, providing important information for the Crimean Tatars and all the inhabitants of the peninsula that contribute to the formation of interethnic peace and good neighborly relations.



**Ekaterina Kozyr:**

# the Crimean Spring revived the TV and Radio Company "Crimea"

Text: Maria SAVINA

**Ekaterina Kozyr - Director General of the TV and Radio Company "Crimea" (from 2014 to 2018) in her exclusive interview to "the Crimean Magazine" tells about the European-style freedom of speech, content in six languages and "naughty tricks" of the Ukrainian officials.**

**- How did the TV company work before the referendum in 2014? Which pros and cons in the work of the Ukrainian period would you point out?**

- Let's divide the question into two parts: technical equipment and creative component. When in 2014 we made an



Photo: Lidia Vietkhova

audit, the most modern equipment we had was a video camera of 2008. Moreover it was bought already having a mark "second-hand". That is, the technical base was far from perfect. Today, the TV and Radio Company "Crimea" is the most challenging ultra-modern technical engineering complex. Of course you can find analogues in Russia but nobody has built anything like that in such a short time. Nowadays the



## NEW LIFE media family

equipment both on television and on the radio is state-of-the-art. We working with the best one.

As for the creative component, just imagine: you and me are the people who think and speak Russian even then, even in Ukrainian times. And suddenly we get an order that starting tomorrow the 75% of our own content should be in Ukrainian. Who would watch our progmars if the primary language of our audience is Russian? This decree of the State Committee for Television and Radio of Ukraine caused a protest. But anyways a small percentage of the content still started to appear in the Ukrainian language. In particular, the news releases were in Russian, Ukrainian and Crimean Tatar languages accordingly. And so, the Ukrainian version was not actually popular. We received letters from outraged TV viewers who asked why we were doing this in the Russian-speaking Crimea. Eventhough the quota of the Ukrainian language was subsequently reduced regionally for the Crimea, but nevertheless it was still present. It turned out that we were producing content that never was in-demand.

Today the story is different. Now one of our media, the Crimea-24, produces about 87% of its own content. And also in six languages, which makes the TV and Radio Company "Crimea" unique throughout the whole Russian Federation. These languages are Russian, Ukrainian, Crimean Tatar, Greek, Bulgarian and Armenian. By the way, thes



**The Investigation Committee  
has materials about the  
threats of physical violence  
against journalists working  
in Crimea and members  
of their families**







## NEW LIFE media family

languages are present not only on television, but also on radio. Hence, the Crimean Spring has revived our television and radio company.

### **- How the dialog with the officials was built in the Crimea during the Ukrainian period and how is it now? Any differences?**

- Kiev officials were basically not available. That is, they were available only during election campaigns. It was then when they came on air and promised to solve the problems ... But it was almost impossible to get any constructive comment on the issues. Moreover, the deputies and officials of all levels, with minor exceptions, showed an outstanding cunning, guile, travel speed and other qualities, so as not to give this same interview. The formal inquiries were kept on the shelf for years or were completely lost in the process of sending. Today the situation is different. The experts, the head of the republic, the State Duma deputies are all open, are all available, there are no problems. Now the press services are working quite effectively. At least, not a single request remained unanswered. And we basically do not receive the so-called formal replies. Usually we get a phone call with updated exact time and date of interview. Comments are not denied, government officials of any level are always available.

### **- Do the sanctions affect the work?**

- In autumn of 2018, our journalist Dmitry Koksharov spoke at the OSCE

Photo: Mihail Gladchuk



Photo: Mihail Gladchuk



Photo: Lidia Viekhnova







meeting on freedom of speech in Warsaw. At the same time, Ervin Musaev, the director general of "Millet" found his microphone switched off and prohibited to speak after he introduced himself "Simferopol, Crimea, Russia"! That's the freedom of speech. Dmitry Koksharov managed miraculously to reach to the microphone, but this is rather an exception to the rule. The advanced Europe suddenly started to fight against the freedom of speech, hiding

behind democratic slogans. And we, the Crimeans, were no longer allowed to enter the European sites. For what reason? So that for the myth about the alleged atrocities of the Russian invaders would not be busted by the Crimeans. So that we would not tell by chance that the Crimean bridge really exists and the cathedral mosque (with which Ukrainian authorities have blackmailed the Crimean Tatars for many years) is being built at a rapid pace under the patronage of the President Vladimir Putin. So that we would not tell anybody that a new airport has really been built here, and the kindergartens are being opened, and the roads are being built. Generally speaking, the "bloody terror of the Russian invader" looks completely different from the inside rather than from the pages and blue screens of European media. And personal sanctions were shown at their best in October-November 2017, when Maxim Nikolayenko and we were not allowed to enter Austria, where it also was spoken about the freedom of speech and about the human rights abuse in Crimea if you please. That's how our rights were

**Our main achievement is that we managed to make a family atmosphere, the conditions where it is nice to create. A creative person cannot live in the mode of information terror or censorship**





Photo: Lidia Vlietkhova

violated, in particular the right of freedom of movement. After all, we still remember that one of the basic principles of democracy in any state is the freedom of speech. The OSCE has violated this freedom against us at that time. This time, albeit with a fight, but we managed to break through.

As for the technical equipment, there are certain items considering the TV equipment that is not produced in Russia. But we have already bought all Russian machinery that we could buy. For example, our car fleet consists only of domestic-made cars. The car of executive personnel is Lada Vesta. We also have Larguses. The design of our studio was developed by the Crimean designers. In 2015, the integrator company that decided to enter Crimea was the only one. Everyone was so much afraid that if they showed what was being built in Crimea, the European and American partners would refuse to supply equipment. But as it turned out, the company that showed certain courage then, won the jackpot. Today we are quite an important client for them.

By the way, speaking about the sanctions we have a small remark. More and more offers we receive from various foreign TV companies with a request to share content. We never refuse anyone. The only thing we ask is to present our content exactly in the form in which we provided, so that there would be no remounting and so forth. And we try to control this process.

**- Which projects is TRC "Crimea" proud of now?**

- The TV Company is proud of the TV Company itself. We have such a great reality show called TRC "Crimea". Our main achievement is that we managed to create a family atmosphere, the conditions where it is nice to create. A creative person cannot live in the mode of information terror or censorship. And he should not walk along corridors with torn linoleum, he shouldn't have plaster falling on his head and - forgive me for the details - he should have a warm toilet. Before the Crimean Spring, in the Ukrainian period there were ruins here, the smell of wet rags ... But today the situation is different - we have snow-white walls with the photos of the brightest moments that all the team likes. 43 children were born in our team in 4 years. This is perhaps the greatest achievement, because most families are being created here. In general we have started from zero. That's why each project deserves a separate word. They are all bright and beautiful. The "Crimea-24" is probably the most dynamically developing child in our media family, that always invents something new, changes formats, runs, jumps, flies somewhere and tries so hard to be the first!



# “TV and Radio Company “CRIMEA” started a new life in 2014

The autonomous non-commercial organization “TV and Radio Company “Crimea” was created instead of the former State TV and Radio Company, which has had a glorious history since the 50s of the last century. But by 2014, it fell into a deep creative, financial and technical decay just like most of the Crimean enterprises and objects in Ukraine did. There were 1 TV channel and 1 wire radio station in the structure of the STRC “Crimea” then. Outdated equipment and broadcasting format, poorly repaired and poorly heated premises, the financial crisis, crummy and unsystematic salaries of employees, poor quality of the “picture” on the TV screen, personnel gap, detached and consumer’s attitude of the authorities of those times to the main Crimean media forced the team to literally “survive against all odds”. Although these sacrifices were wasted: the trust and interest from the audience were already hopelessly lost and the Crimeans almost stopped watching TV airtime of the “main peninsula media”, switching to private TV channels and radio stations.



# NEW LIFE

## Crimean media

A new countdown in the television space of the peninsula started after the life-changing referendum of 2014, which reunited Crimea with Russia.

The Autonomous non-commercial organization "TV and Radio Company "CRIMEA", which is fundamentally new and the largest (not only for Crimea, but also for the regional level of Russia) media association was created and registered in the Russian legal field on September 29, 2014.

### THE STRUCTURE INCLUDES FIVE MEDIA OUTLETS:

2 TV channels – the "First Crimean" and the "Crimea 24",

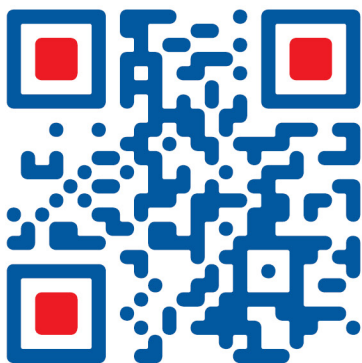
3 radio stations – Radio "Crimea" (FM), Radio "Sea" (more) (FM), Radio "Crimea.Period" (the only wired radio of the Crimea).

Each media is different in its concept and target audience. As a result, all together they fully satisfy the needs of any o TV viewers and radio listeners' category.

We had to quickly complete a full "upgrade" of the sad Ukrainian "heritage" in 2014. What was done: technical re-equipment; the overhaul of several buildings and the creation of normal conditions for workers; personnel revolution. The ANO TRC "Crimea" made a powerful breakthrough in absolute technical re-equipment from 2015 to 2017.

We purchased the equipment of the latest generation (HD-video cameras, director's consoles, mounting equipment, etc.). Two modern outside broadcasting units (OB units) appeared, allowing live broadcasts from the most remote corners of the peninsula.

2 old studio pavilions were reconstructed and a new one for the information channel "Crimea 24" was built from a scratch. And now TRC "Crimea" has a modern virtual studio for rear projection (chromakey background), and two unique zoned transformer pavilions that allow creating TVprojects of any complexity degree – from camera format to large shows with the participants number of 100 or more peo-



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Crimean Magazine





## NEW LIFE

### Crimean media

ple. The car fleet of the television and radio company has been enriched with 13 new Russian-made cars.

The acquisition of a modern satellite auto-motor-operated antenna allowed exchanging signals with the leading Russian media in real time and broadcasting events happening on the peninsula and anywhere in Russia.

The "Crimea 24" TV channel received its own new studio television complex: a pavilion of 100 square meters, a news room of 80 square meters for 26 workplaces, an ASB (live broadcast equipment) and three mounting TVJSs in 2017.

The technical re-equipment engaged and radio as well. The old radio pavilion was upgraded. The acoustic insulation with sound absorption system was installed. All elec-

tric and lighting systems were replaced. The modern interior was created. All the communications for TV broadcasts were completed. Upcoming are the purchase and installation of a 360-degree television camera for live broadcasts on the Internet with the possibility to control the camera by the user.

A major overhaul of the television complex building was fulfilled in 2016–2017 and the works on the improvement of the adjacent territory are being carried out in 2018.

Significant changes have occurred in respect of personnel. Today, a tight-knit, energetic and professional multinational team of 360 people is working at the television and radio company. The average age of employees is 30-35 years old. And not only the Crimeans, but also specialists from different cities of Russia – for example, Tyumen, St. Petersburg, Moscow and others.

***The minor planet 29081 was named Krymradio in 2010. As noted in the circular of the International Astronomical Association "Minor Planet Center, Smithsonian Astrophysical Observatory" (Cambridge, USA): "This minor planet is named after the eightieth anniversary of the "Crimean Radio" which broadcasts in seven languages. It is named after its tireless workers, high-quality experts, winners of international contests and journalistic competitions".***







If talking about the broadcasting area of the ANO TRC "Crimea", then today 2 television channels broadcast full time in analog, digital and satellite HD format on 90% of Crimea, Russia and most of the Eurasian continent. TV Channels "First Crimean" and "Crimea 24" are the first and ONLY in the country, which aired terrestrial digital broadcasting in HD format in 2017. They are broadcast by cable operators throughout Russia, which speaks of the high TV product quality. They are in the top positions in the ranking of the most cited mass media in Crimea and Sevastopol (according to research by reputable Russian information and analytical media monitoring systems). The media outreach is about 2.1 million people.

3 radio channels – "Crimea", "Sea", "Crimea.Period" – broadcast full-time in the entire Crimean territory. The regular audience is almost 1.8 million people.

The online broadcasting by all five media outlets is carried out as well on the website of the TV and Radio Company "Crimea"

**Crimean Magazine**



Photo: Mihail Gladchuk

## **Petros Kasimatis – Greek journalist**



Photo: Mihail Gladchuk

## **Miguel Garcia – Colombian sportsman**





Photo: Minali Ciachlur



## NEW LIFE

### Crimean media

The harmonization of interethnic relations is important in polyethnic Crimea. The special editorial board of national programs creates television and radio projects in several languages of the Crimean nations. Every week the Armenian (“Barev”), Greek (“Elpida”), Crimean Tatar (“Milliy Khazine”), German (“Hoffnung”) programs, as well as the “EtnoKrym” project about more than 175 ethnic groups living on the peninsula are on the air of two TV channels at prime time. National programs tell about the culture, traditions and customs of various Crimean peoples. The department team is multinational: Slavs, Armenians, Greeks and Crimean Tatars

The TV and Radio Company launched the multimedia Republican Press Center on August 15, 2016. The press center is equipped with six video cameras, a 12-panel video wall and modern sound equipment. It allows accommodating up to 100 people in the audience and up to 6 speakers.

The ANO “TRC “Crimea” has more than 200 radio and television projects: informational, educational, entertainment, sports, music, children’s. All of them are created since 2014. A lot of them have become nominees and winners of prestige regional, federal and international competitions. It has got 42 top awards from the end of 2014 to the middle of 2018.

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Radio “Crimea.Period” is also broadcasting in 7 languages: in three state languages – Russian, Ukrainian and Crimean Tatar, as well as in the languages of the peoples deported from the Crimea in 1944 – Armenian, Bulgarian, Greek and German.

The national programs had only 20 minutes a day, i.e. one program per week until March 2014. This number has doubled since 2014. The programs on history, culture, customs and traditions of the peoples of Crimea are broadcast in their native language twice a week: “Bulgarian meetings”,





Photo: Mihail Gladchuk

**Gary Hunt –**  
world champion on cliff-diving



**Patrick Mercer,  
Roger Ward –**  
Scientists from  
Bristol University

“Revival” (German), “Guzel Kırım” (Crimean Tatar); “My heart is in the mountains” (Armenian) and “Yasu, Krimea” (Greek).

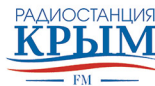
If talking about the individual characteristics of each of the 5 media, then



the **“FIRST CRIMEAN”** is a family, educational and entertaining TV channel. It’s got about 50 projects of own production per year.



the **“CRIMEA 24”** is an information television channel that daily broadcasts 12 original news releases, more than 35 author’s information and analytical projects telling about the current events both in Crimea and in the country, as well as in the world. The own-produced programs make 85% of the total broadcasting volume.



the **RADIO STATION “CRIMEA”** – information and entertainment channel. It broadcasts on the territory of the Republic of Crimea and the city of Sevastopol. Information, analytical, socio-economic, cultural and educational programs are broadcast on it, they cover the whole range of issues and problems: from regional to global.

It’s got 40 own projects, which are created by a team of 14 staff employees and 4 free employees.

10 news releases are made daily on the air of radio “Crimea”.



# NEW LIFE

## Crimean media



**THE RADIOSTATION "SEA"** is young and for young people.

This is the most positive and young radio in Crimea! The heart of the broadcasting network is the entertainment and educational programs of its own production. It occupies a position in the top five best radio stations in Simferopol.



the **RADIO STATION "CRIMEA.PERIOD"** is the only wired radio in Crimea. The keeper of the priceless heritage of one of the oldest radio stations in the country, created in the 30s of the last century. The radio-men celebrated 88th birthday in 2018! The programs of the radio "Crimea.Period" are not only traditional news of a social and political nature, but also cultural news, reviews, announcements, children's programs. It has more than 50 original author's projects, based on spirituality and morality.

Photo: Mihail Gladchuk



The Crimean wire radio broadcast only 2 hours and 10 minutes a day (6 airings for 10-20 minutes) until March 2014. The rest of the Crimean radio time was given to the national radio of Ukraine. Only 30 own original programs a week were left. Now about 100 original programs a week go on the air of the radio "Crimea.Period" and it broadcasts 24 hours a day





# INTERNATIONAL SPORTS ORGANIZATION CALLED THE FIFA NOT TO BLOCK CRIMEA

**The international organization "Sport for All" appealed to FIFA and UEFA with a request to allow the creation of fan zones in the Republic of Crimea during major tournaments and to abandon the discriminatory policy in general. This is stated in the letter of the organization management to FIFA.**

"We consider this to be discrimination. Sport is out of politics. The residents of all regions of the world should enjoy the same rights and be able to watch matches without restriction, to cheer for their national teams and support their favorite players. FIFA, by its decision, has deprived the Crimeans of a festive atmosphere to some extent. Anyone who has ever





## NEWS

### to the point

**Kuzins noted that since Russia is the organizer of the upcoming championship, it would be appropriate to resolve the issue with Crimea as soon as possible**

been in the fan zones perfectly understands what I mean. No one demands political statements from the leadership of FIFA. It is essential to lift these restrictions during the next major tournament. In addition the sports and, in particular, the football life of the peninsula should not become a hostage to politics", – the newspaper "Izvestia" quotes the head of Sport for All Janis Kuzins.

He noted that the appeal was also sent to UEFA (Union of European Football Associations, a member of FIFA). In 2020, the European Championships will be held for the first time in 12 stadiums of 12 UEFA member countries, including Russia. Kuzins noted that since Russia is the organizer of the upcoming championship, it would be appropriate to resolve the issue with Crimea as soon as possible, and the inhabitants of the peninsula would enjoy the atmosphere of an international tournament.



**GRIGORY IOFFE:**

# **THE BROADCASTERS OF FAKES ABOUT CRIMEA HAVE NEVER VISITED IT**



**Grigory Ioffe is a Ukrainian and Russian politician, political analyst and a deputy of different convening who has been the Chairman of the Public Chamber of the Republic of Crimea since 2014 tells about how the mass media of the peninsula has been developing after the collapse of the Soviet Union, during first years of Ukrainian statehood and how the media is operating in the Russian Crimea in an exclusive interview to “The Crimean magazine”. About fakes, double standards, political “bosses” and the freedom of speech.**

## **THE LEAVE OF EPOCH AND THE TOUGH NINETIETH**

The media in Crimea was developing rapidly after the collapse of the Soviet Union. It was due to the lifting of prohibitions existed in the ideological sphere in the USSR. People felt the freedom, so the political structures started popping up like mushrooms on the peninsula.

During the first years of Ukrainian statehood, it was possible to create the Crimean political parties in the republic. The impetus for this was given by the well-known referendum held in January 1991 which recreated the autonomy. In the early 90s, there was a rapid growth of political structures and as a result there was an increase of the number of media that serviced them.

Then this process faced the tough facts of life, mostly of an economic



Views of the rocky mountains  
valley of ghosts in the Crimea





## **OPINION**

### **to the point**

nature and was overthrown. The political parties appeared and disappeared, and so did the media appeared and disappeared. It is referred only to the print media. The sphere of the Internet has not yet been developed and news agencies have not yet appeared as well.

In my opinion, it was that period when the negative tradition of dividing the media into political "chambers" arose. Many of them introduced themselves as independent, but it was only in words. In fact, the economic situation in Ukraine and Crimea was such that there were no opportunities for the existence and functioning of an independent media. In order for the mass media to be really free from the influence of any party or simply the "boss", it had to be published in a huge circulation that would be entirely sold or issued for subscription. The circulations of the Crimean newspapers were humble. Naturally, the activity of these media wasn't rewarding, it demanded support from the structures that needed any print publication.

It should be noted positive that all or almost all city and regional editions have survived in that troublous time. Unfortunately, under the Ukrainian reality and the flawed worldview of officials, these newspapers unlike the above-mentioned ones, served only the interests of the local authorities acting as their founders.

### **DOUBLE STANDARDS OF THE UKRAINIAN PERIOD**

From the very beginning, the policy of the Ukrainian government regarding the media was two-faced. The law on mass media

adopted at that time in Ukraine, was democratic and provided great opportunities for the media development just being on paper. On the other hand, all that remained only a declaration. As I have already said, the economic situation dictated to the media such rules of survival that could never be called democratic ones.

During these years there was a break of the reader's perception about the verity of the printed word. In the USSR the readers received news only from the Soviet media, and there was no other information source in this basically closed society, and then a huge amount of contradictory information fell on the Crimeans in the 90s. It was very difficult to find something objective in this flood and what is more – to orientate in the constantly flowing stream of political information. This affected dramatically the subsequent history of the issue.

Finally the natural selection came: on the one hand, the political structures disappeared and their press platforms with them, on the other – a lot of media began to move from one party to another.

Independent media never appeared. This is a characteristic of the Ukrainian period. After abolishing by Kiev several variants of the Crimean Constitution in different years, the very existence of autonomy itself became only declarative. Then, throughout the country, the existence of regional political parties was banned, as a result a lot of media outlets disappeared completely. A lot of unemployed journalists came up.

Then various Ukrainian legal acts regulating the proportion between the Russian



## OPINION to the point

and Ukrainian languages in the media in favor of the state Ukrainian language were adopted, and if the Crimean Spring had not happened, the Crimean media would finally live to the point when the existence of the media in Russian language would be impossible. This applied to electronic publications as well.

The State TV and Radio Company "Crimea" which was under the authority of the Crimean government during the Soviet era, was subordinated to Kiev during the Ukrainian period. It was reoriented to fulfill the tasks set by the Ukrainian structures and by 2014 the number of broadcasts in Russian had decreased.

### ABOUT GRANTS AND POLITICAL BIAS

Another characteristic of the Crimean media of the Ukrainian period is the huge number of so-called "grant-eaters". At that time, the information structures began to flourish on the peninsula, operating at the expense of Western customers.

There were journalists who were thoroughly trained in Kiev and abroad to perform certain functions in Crimea. Some of them worked out several grants at once. By the way, they had such studios and technical capabilities that none of the state-owned media had at that time. The operation of these workers was associated with the glorification of everything being done by the Ukrainian authorities, and the humiliation of the Crimean autonomy, pushing forth the western ideology into the information field of the republic.

These people were aimed at the implementation of pro-Western tasks, specially trained and received high money for it, and all that in the broad daylight. The structures that were supposedly designed to defend the freedom of speech on the peninsula were created in Crimea at the expense of Western money. In fact, they were politically motivated and were destabilizing the Crimean autonomy in every possible way. A branch of the Soros Foundation was publicly operating here; it recruited media workers by means of one-time material injections.

This is an important and meaningful part of the Crimean journalism at the Ukrainian period.

**From the very beginning, the policy of the Ukrainian government regarding the media was two-faced. The law on mass media adopted at that time in Ukraine, was democratic and provided great opportunities for the media development only on paper.**



## OPINION

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**The State TV and Radio Company "Crimea" which was under the authority of the Crimean government during the Soviet era, was subordinated to Kiev during the Ukrainian period. It was reoriented to fulfill the tasks set by the Ukrainian structures and by 2014 the number of broadcasts in Russian had decreased**

If this process had not stopped in 2014, it is possible to say that all the more or less active media would have been pressed into a pro-Western service. This is how the "maidans" were prepared and supported.

### **ABOUT THE FREEDOM OF SPEECH**

There was not and could not be in Ukraine such an open mode of the media operation that is now established in the Russian Crimea. Earlier, the republican authorities were closed, were relying only on the media that they had created and supervised.

The journalists had poor contacts with the Crimean officials. There were, of course, some positive examples, but never enough.

Those who insist today on the absence of the freedom of speech in Crimea are divided into two categories: those who sincerely err and those who understand that they connive at the developed and implemented information technology.

Using the words of Mark Twain, one can say: the constant howls about the dictatorial and totalitarian characteristics of Russian reality are "fabulously exaggerated". The Crimean media works in an atmosphere of compliance with all the standards of freedom of speech. You only need to understand that the freedom of speech and the freedom of press is a two-way street. Needless to say, that the legal measures are being applied to those journalists and those mass media that violate the laws.

A large number of ethnic media are working in the republic today. In particular, the Crimean-Tatar TV channel "Millet" was created which is public not private like during the Ukrainian period, when such media belonged to one of the oligarchs. The same can be said about support of the ethnic media which has a special state program developed for in Crimea.

The accusations that are being spread today against the Crimean "non-freedom" are not based on any specific example. The broadcasters of these fakes have never visited Crimea, they haven't studied the situation, and they are just "spoon fed".





Photo: Mikhail Gratchuk





# **Muradov - to UN mission:**

**if Crimea is “occupied” by RF, why  
would you go through Ukraine**

Despite the repeated invitations of the Crimean authorities to visit the peninsula, the representatives of UN and OSCE are refusing to visit it. This was announced at the press conference in the Moscow-Simferopol video-bridge format at the multimedia press center of the INS “Russia today” by Georgy Muradov, the Deputy Chairman of the Crimean Council of Ministers — Permanent Representative of the Republic of Crimea under the President of Russia.

“We are inviting them to Crimea, persistently, over and over. They tell us: we want to come to Crimea, but only through Ukraine without a Russian visa, because the Crimea is an “occupied territory”. Well, it’s useless to argue with them, but how do you want to come to the so-called (of course, we do not agree with this) “occupied territory” through Ukraine: if Russia has “occupied” it, then you must come through Russia?” — rhetorically

remarked the Permanent Representative.

Muradov said that the authorities of the republic has been also repeatedly inviting the secretariats of these international organizations to invite Crimean Tatars living on the peninsula to their stands. “We’ve been repeatedly, year after year, offering the UN, the OSCE to invite Crimean Tatars, to listen to them. And this time we offered both Mr. Nimetullaev (Seytumer Nimetullayev, Chairman of the Regional Public Organization “Kyrym Birligi” — ed.) and Mr. Ablyatipov (Ayder Ablyatipov, Deputy Minister of Education, Science and Youth of the Republic of Crimea — ed.) ... to speak before those who are interested in Crimean Tatar topic. Nevertheless, both of them were categorically denied. The question arises then: do the secretariats of these organizations want to know the truth (about the position of Crimean Tatars on the peninsula - ed.)?” - stressed Muradov.









# ABOUT GAG ORDERS, SUIT JACKETS AND DOMESTIC EQUIPMENT



TEXT: Maria SAVINA

The Director of the Crimean NTV press center and the Director General of TRC “Crimea” Oleg Kruchkov says about the Ukrainian style freedom of speech: “The journalist was not allowed to say that Yanukovich was a duffer, but he could easily play sync where someone else was telling this”.

**- The Crimean media in Ukraine and now. Are there any differences?**

- At the time of Yanukovich and earlier it was quite comfortably to work in the Ukrainian media space. The story was like this: the journalist could not directly say that Yanukovich was a duffer, but he could always play sync where someone

else was telling this. But after the “democrats” took power, the so-called gag orders appeared (inside instruction, guide line from the authorities on the manner of covering an event – ed.), restrictions and everything else. However, starting from the period of the “Maidan” events, the majority of journalists began to work exactly the opposite way – according to



**OPINION**  
to the point







other gag orders, their own, revolutionary ones. And they did not cover the other side – the authorities.

Now, under the allegedly "totalitarian state" as our Ukrainian colleagues call Russia, it is much easier to work. Being a NTV journalist and a person who works for "Crimea-24" in the news, it's enough to simply work in Crimea, because there are no taboo topics. For example, I recently had a story about the illegal construction of the Southern Coast of the Crimea and it was shown on federal television. About the deceived investors and about anything at all!

**- But the Russian and the Crimean authorities in particular are often accused in the freedom of speech abuse. Do you think it has no basis behind it?**

- Definitely. Recently, a story about the "Dallas" sanatorium was broadcast on "Crimea-24" where we criticized the officials for the fact that one of the best Crimean sanatoriums in its good time is poorly funded and could perish. When the story went on the air, there was a live broadcast of the resort industry expert who said: "Yes, we must save such sanatoriums". That's how it seems the state-run channel criticizes the government. And no one shuts us down for this.

**- About sanctions. Did they affect the work?**

- All the editorial teams feel the Western sanctions. Especially, when it comes to buying the equipment – it has become more complicated. But all this forced the Russian manufacturers to produce the Russian television consoles and routers of satellite Internet at last.



## OPINION to the point

### - Along came benefits from them?

- These sanctions are always tough. Still, the technical people should always communicate with each other in order to push the total progress. It is wrong to prohibit the sale of anything. I personally felt the sanctions — it became thornier for me to buy suit jackets for stand-ups (laughs - ed.) Unfortunately, our Sevastopol factory doesn't sew suit jackets that would fit me. That's why I have to drive to Krasnodar in order to buy them. That is basically all that I personally fell about the sanctions.

### - Do you have the latest successful projects that you are proud of?

- My most successful project lies in the fact that the Crimean office of the NTV channel was completely established from point zero. ■



# UKRAINIAN DIPLOMATS ARE NOT COMING TO CRIMEA THEMSELVES AND KEEP OTHERS AWAY FROM VISITING IT

**Maria Zakharova**

**The Ukrainian diplomats themselves refuse to come to Crimea and prevent foreigners from doing it by hiding real information about the situation on the peninsula. This was said during a briefing by Maria Zakharova, the press spokeswoman for the Russia's Foreign Ministry.**

“They themselves don’t want to come, not to mention that they are doing everything to, first of all, prevent any of foreign partners from coming here and, secondly, not to let the Crimeans come, for example, to EU countries. Moreover, they are even protesting against the possibility for the Crimeans to speak at international sites and talk about what is really happening in Crimea”, – she said.

In addition, Zakharova noted that representatives of the Ukrainian political elite do not even trust the citizens of their country, the public figures who urge to open their eyes and see how much has been done for the residents of Crimea in terms of infrastructure and what rights were given to the residents of Crimea.





The press spokeswoman for the Russia's Foreign Ministry earlier invited foreign officials and diplomats to visit Crimea.

"We invite everyone to see Crimea personally, to assure of the real situation on the peninsula. Russian diplomats are constantly talking about this at various levels, starting with the Minister of Foreign Affairs, our ambassadors and experts, inviting diplomats from foreign countries and international officials to look at all the positive trends and the remaining problems, rather than draw their political conclusions on unreasonable and far too often lacking facts material that is dumped into the media. We are ready to hold a dialogue, including with the relevant interstate



structures, to receive their missions in Crimea", – said Zakharova.

She stressed as well that there is a growing interest abroad in obtaining the unbiased information about the life in Crimea and in cooperation with the Crimean government and business.

"The interest for cooperation with Crimea from foreign business, social and political groups is growing. The reflection of this trend is a steady increase in the number of foreign delegations. There were more than a hundred of them in 2017. We expect the same impressive numbers this year. Another real evidence of the desire for cooperation was a number of high-profile international events that took place on the peninsula. For example, the fourth YIEF has become a key platform for discussing topics of cooperation with Crimea and promoting its investment opportunities", – the press spokeswoman for the Russia's Foreign Ministry added.

She noted as well that the recent visits to the peninsula by "the constructive-minded non-governmental organizations from Norway, Germany and the USA" contributed to the formation of a true picture of the life of the Crimean subjects of Russia.



**Head of the Union  
of Journalists  
of the Republic of Crimea:**

**We reject  
the language  
of political  
ultimatums**



**Text: Andrey TROFIMOV**

**Especially for “The Crimean Magazine”, the Chairman of the Union of Journalists of the Republic of Crimea Andrey Trofimov prepared material about the work of media representatives on the territory of the peninsula. He told about the difficulties, sanctions, anti-Crimean hysteria mongering and how the Crimeans were labeled as “vatniki” and “Colorados”.**



In March 2014 the inhabitants of Crimea, acting under international law, made their choice consciously and freely. And from that moment on the Republic of Crimea is an integral and inherent part of the Russian Federation. The functioning in the new public and political, social and legal con-

ditions, the high degree of the journalistic work power, the unilateral break by the Ukrainian side of a longstanding partnership required the creation of a new public journalistic organization, an effective creative union.

**Despite such attitude toward us, we are highlighting: we are open to dialogue, co-operation and equal partnership. Denying and absolutely rejecting the language of political blackmail and ultimatums, we will always be happy to welcome in Crimea the inter-governmental and inter-parliamentary delegations and colleagues-journalists and to create the most comfortable working conditions for them, to introduce all aspects of the life of the Crimeans to them**

Having considered the appeals of the Crimean colleagues, the Secretariat of the Union of Journalists of Russia (SJR) created the Crimean Republican Branch in April 2014. The Crimean journalists decided to liquidate the Crimean branch of the National Union of Journalists of Ukraine on May 31, 2014 and on the same day during the constituent conference the Union of Journalists of Crimea – the regional branch of the Union of Journalists of Russia (CRO SJR) was created by over 200 journalists of the peninsula.

Many members of the Union of Journalists of Crimea who previously were the part of the National Union of Journalists of Ukraine are now full-fledged citizens of the Russian Federation, who have always considered and sensed themselves as an integral part of the Russian-speaking world and cultural space. Today they are proud of their professional achievements, they do not tear up and do not destroy publicly membership cards of the NUJU, they consider their presence in the NUJU as a certain stage of their life and professional career, they are ready for honest and open cooperation and they try to keep strictly to the spirit of the international solidarity of journalists.

Always speaking for equal partnership and professional dialogue between journalists from different countries, accepting the superiority of the principles of morality,



## GLANCE from inside

mores and journalistic ethics, the Crimean journalists regret to note the obvious reluctance of the European, American and, unfortunately, of the Ukrainian side to continue such dialogue. It is disturbing that a number of international institutions where the Russian Federation is included, nowadays hold a directly pro-Ukrainian position, ignore the will of the Crimeans and continue to implement the policy of double standards.

The manipulation of public opinion, the distortion of reality and unprincipled information war – these are the methods of “dialogue” with the Crimean journalists. Today, the Ukrainian media are filled with Russo-phobic information. The Russian Federation is presented just by the epithets “enemy”, “aggressor”, the returning of Crimea to Rus-

sia – “annexation” and “occupation” and the Crimeans are labeled as “supporters of the occupants”, “vatniki” and “Colorados”. A lot of materials about the life of the modern Crimea are a distortion and denial of reality. The representatives of the Ukrainian side who are rejecting everything Soviet and Russian, who are rewriting the history, who are destroying monuments to the heroes of the Second World War, who are popularizing neo-fascism and neo-nazism are still out of sight of the UN and the OSCE, but at the same time they are keeping on to claim from the high tribunes about the allegedly “occurring facts of systematic violation the rights and freedoms of Ukrainian journalists working in the occupied Crimea”.

If the OSCE as an integral postulate of its activity asserts the superiority of democratic principles, which means objectivity and authenticity, then why none of the Crimean journalists have been invited to speak so far, no one from the OSCE office asked about the opinion of the Union of Journalists of the Republic of Crimea – the most biggest journalistic organization on the peninsula, none of those concerned so much about the rights of the Crimean journalists have been to Crimea with a visit and have not talked directly with us – to those who were born or who live and work in the Republic of Crimea?

The answer is obvious: the aim of the OSCE is to keep an emotionally charged atmosphere around the Republic of Crimea by introducing sanctions that violate basic human rights and by creating the isolation and informational vacuum around Russia.

**The aim of the OSCE is to keep emotionally charged atmosphere around the Republic of Crimea by introducing sanctions that violate basic human rights and by creating the isolation and informational vacuum around Russia**







## GLANCE from inside

**466 media outlets operate in Crimea, among them: print periodicals – 286; TV channels – 31; radio channels – 49; news agencies – 10; online media – 50; municipal media – 26. I especially want to emphasize the linguistic diversity of the mass media: the media are registered in the languages of national communication in the Republic of Crimea and Sevastopol: in Russian – 426, in Crimean Tatar – 53, in Ukrainian – 75, in Bulgarian – 10, in Greek – 10, in Armenian – 10, in German – 12, in English – 111**

It is revealing: in 2017 during the work of the specialized section on freedom of speech at the annual OSCE meeting on human dimensions, the European Commissioner deprived of the right to speak the chairman of the Union of Journalists of the Crimea Andrey Trofimov and when Alexander Belanov, the secretary of the Union of Journalists of the Republic of Crimea and Ervin Musaev, the director of the Crimean-Tatar TV channel “Millet” began speaking at a similar meeting in Warsaw on September 11, 2018 they were not allowed to speak after the protest of Ukraine, Austria and Canada.

Despite such attitude toward us, we are highlighting: we are open to dialogue, cooperation and equal partnership. Denying and absolutely rejecting

the language of political blackmail and ultimatums, we will always be happy to welcome in Crimea the intergovernmental and inter-parliamentary delegations and colleagues-journalists and to create the most comfortable working conditions for them, to introduce all aspects of the life of the Crimeans to them.

In response to the mongering of anti-Russian and anti-Crimean hysteria in foreign media, to the introduction against us of more and more new sanctions that violate human rights and also in connection with the OSCE intentions to carry on the work on the creation of a monitoring mission in Crimea, on behalf of the Union of Journalists of the Republic of Crimea I announce:



# GLANCE

## from inside

- The Republic of Crimea is full-fledged subject of the Russian Federation, independent, uncontrolled and unaccountable to the American, European, Ukrainian or any other party;

- since the spring of 2014 when the Republic of Crimea entered the Russian Federation, the Crimean media has had a legal year for re-registration within the terms of all-Russian media legislation. Anyone interested could do it, and today an integrated, multi-layered, multi-leveled media system has been created on the territory of the Crimea and the city of Sevastopol.

466 media outlets operate in Crimea, among them: print periodicals – 286; TV channels – 31; radio channels – 49; news agencies – 10; online media – 50; municipal media – 26. I especially want to emphasize the linguistic diversity of the mass media: the media are registered in the languages of national communication in the Republic of Crimea and Sevastopol: in Russian – 426, in Crimean Tatar – 53, in Ukrainian – 75, in Bulgarian – 10, in Greek – 10, in Armenian – 10, in German – 12, in English – 111.

- all conditions for an open public multi-confessional and inter-ethnic dialogue in the media sphere are created on the territory of the Republic of Crimea;

- the multinational structure of the Union of Journalists of the Crimea and Sevastopol has hundreds of people (over 550) – Russians and Ukrainians, Poles and Crimean Tatars, Belarusians and Greeks, all those who live and work in Crimea;

- there were no appeals to the Union of Journalists of Crimea from any Crimean journalists regarding political, linguistic or religious persecution, violations of freedom of speech or obstruction of legal professional activities for the period of 2014-2018;

- all the information coming from the monitoring of various public and human rights organizations is carefully checked and clarified by us and, if necessary, is taken under control. Moreover in this case the CRO SJR does not divide the journalistic community into: - SJR members, - non-SJR members (from among the journalists of the Russian Federation or the Crimea), - non SJR members (foreign journalists, including Ukrainian ones);

- “monitorings”, on the basis of which the international community makes conclusions about the situation in the Crimea and imposes sanctions against the Russian Federation are the consistent falsification, beneficial only to those who plant anti-Russian themes in the minds of the American and European citizens;

- we consider the activities of the American, European and Ukrainian media aimed at blackening Crimea and the Crimeans, provocative and regard as destructive, contradictory to the spirit of partnership and interstate dialogue, interference in the domestic policy of a sovereign independent state – the Russian Federation.



**NEW**  
history

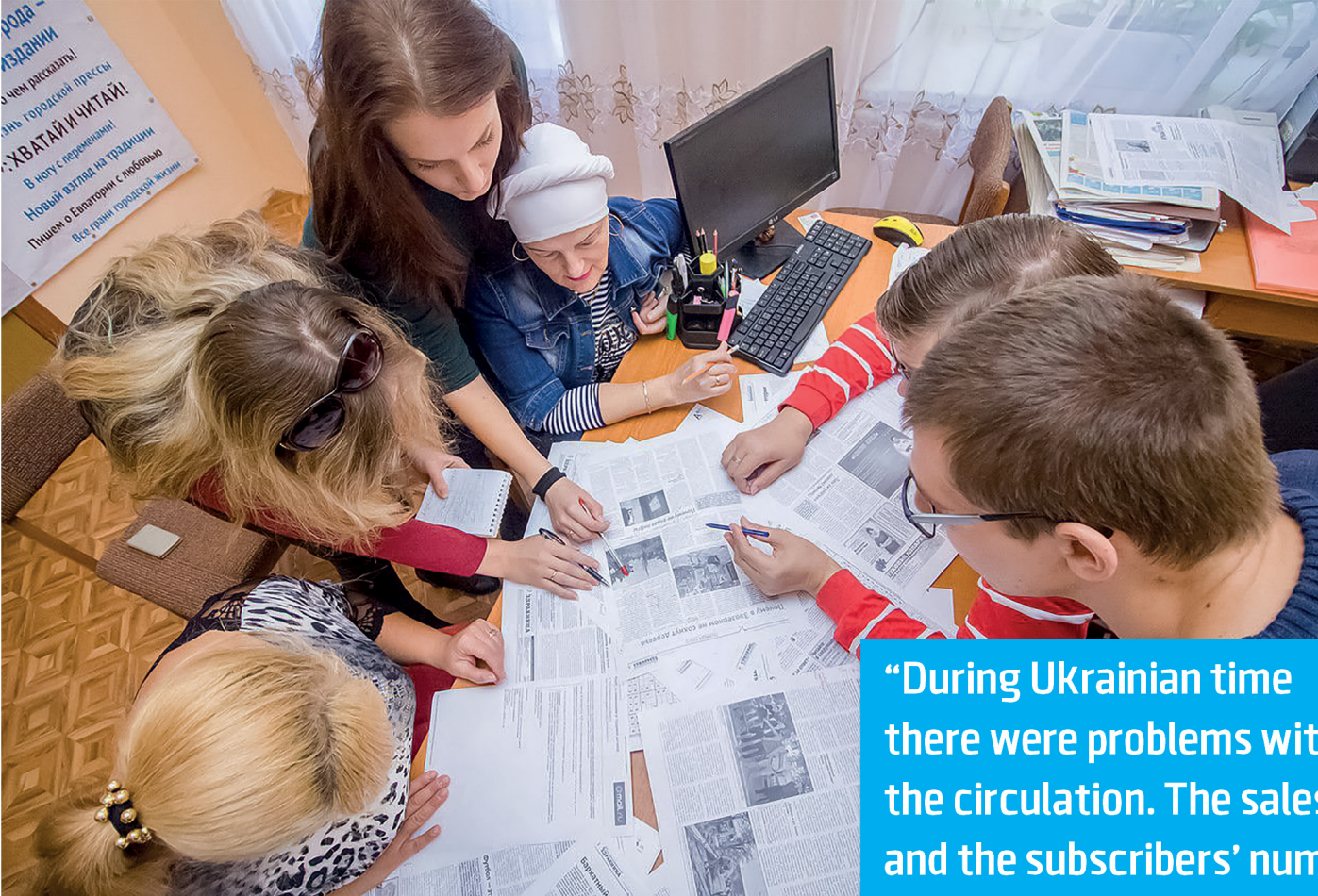
# THE NEWSPAPER WITH SEMICENTENARY HISTORY

WHICH HAS SEEN IT ALL

Media holdings with a thousand employees of staff, cool TV channels with huge advertising budgets, journalists with famous names ... All this of course is nice. But also very small editions exist in small provincial towns. That has neither fanfare, nor huge amount of money or staff overage. But definitely with a soul, charisma and boundless love for work and native town or village. And they are so needed for local residents, who surely also watch cool TV channels and read cool journalists. But those TV channels and journalists often do not care about these people, their fouls and fairs. But the local newspaper does! Therefore the Crimean magazine decided to tell one of these stories.







**“During Ukrainian time there were problems with the circulation. The sales and the subscribers’ number were decreasing gradually: the reason for this was the natural “migration” of readers to the Internet and the political commitment of the edition. At that time the authorities both controlled and strictly censored all publications**

For its semicentenary history “Eupatoria health resort” has seen the best years of the USSR, and its collapse, and the first referendum on the status of the Crimea, and the period of Ukrainian power that was contradictory and difficult in the economic terms at first, and then in ideological and political terms as well, and the return to Russia. Today the circulation of the newspaper belonging to the Eupatoria city municipal entity of the Republic of Crimea with a name “Eupatoria health resort” is 10 000 copies. The city’s main newspaper hadn’t had such circulation for long decades up to 2014.

“During Ukrainian time there were problems with the circulation. The sales and the subscribers’ number were decreasing gradually: the reason for this was the natural “migration” of readers to the Internet and the political commitment of the edition. At that time the authorities both controlled and

strictly censored all publications, and also did not allow the team to develop, to keep up with the times. We were losing interest and trust of the city people”, – recalls Irina Glavnova, one of “Eupatoria health resort” old-timers.



# NEW history

In 2014 the approach to the media began to change: the printed press was paid attention and asked to have a dialogue. This led to the birth of a new project, which was supported and financed from the municipal bud-

In January 2019 the edition will be 50 years old. Therefore, one of the main principles of the editorship: preserving the traditions, keeping up with the times

get. Today the main goal of "Eupatoria health resort" project is to make the information about the life of the city and the republic highly available for a wide audience. That's why we moved to a free distribution and increased the edition circulation from 2 to 10 thousand copies. Now the newspaper is delivered to 60 distribution points, which are located in crowded areas of the city and townships of the city district, as well as in the administrative and business centers of Eupatoria.

Moreover, the "Eupatoria health resort" conducted a rebranding in 2014, after years-long stagnation: revised the content presentation, format, topics and columns. One of the new columns that became permanent is "Friendly Family of Nations", which united 14 national and cultural autonomies. The columns about city people, the city history, records about the infrastructure development of Eupatoria and the life of children's resort are popular as well.

By the way, in January 2019 the edition will be 50 years old. Therefore, one of the main principles of the editorship: preserving the traditions, keeping up with the times.





**NEW**  
history



**EXECUTIVE  
EDITOR  
OF "EUPATORIA  
HEALTH RESORT"**

**NATALIA OBRAZTSOVA:**

It happened that specifically in Russia just before the 50th anniversary the newspapers had taken a leap: it is the rebranding itself, and the audience accumulation including the youth. To be short in numbers: the circulation before the 2014 was 2 thousands. Now it is 10 thousands. At that time there were only 6 author's columns, and now – 17. During Ukrainian period the number of colored columns in newspaper was 0, now 4 out of 16. And this is not the limit.

This had effects. Monitoring says that trust to the local press is being restored gradually. The newspaper is wanted and useful. Starting from 2019, the circulation of the "Eupatoria health resort" will be already 15 thousand copies. For me, as an editor, it is important that the reputation of a journalist is cleared in Eupatoria: my colleagues are no longer considered corrupt scribblers, like during the Ukrainian period. That's why the statements of some Western colleagues about the restriction of free speech and abusing of media rights in Crimea are at least surprising. We are open for have a dialogue: come to Crimea, we are ready to communicate and show everything as it is!



**Fabio Lepore –  
Italian jazz star**

I work all the time... And unfortunately I have no possibility to look around all Crimea. But last year I was here in Yalta, Sevastopol and Kerch. Awfully beautiful places. There is something native in these places. I come here for the second time and I just wonder: "In Crimea you have such beautiful girls! Why, what's the catch?"



**Konstantin Ermish –  
Board member  
of Druschba Global**

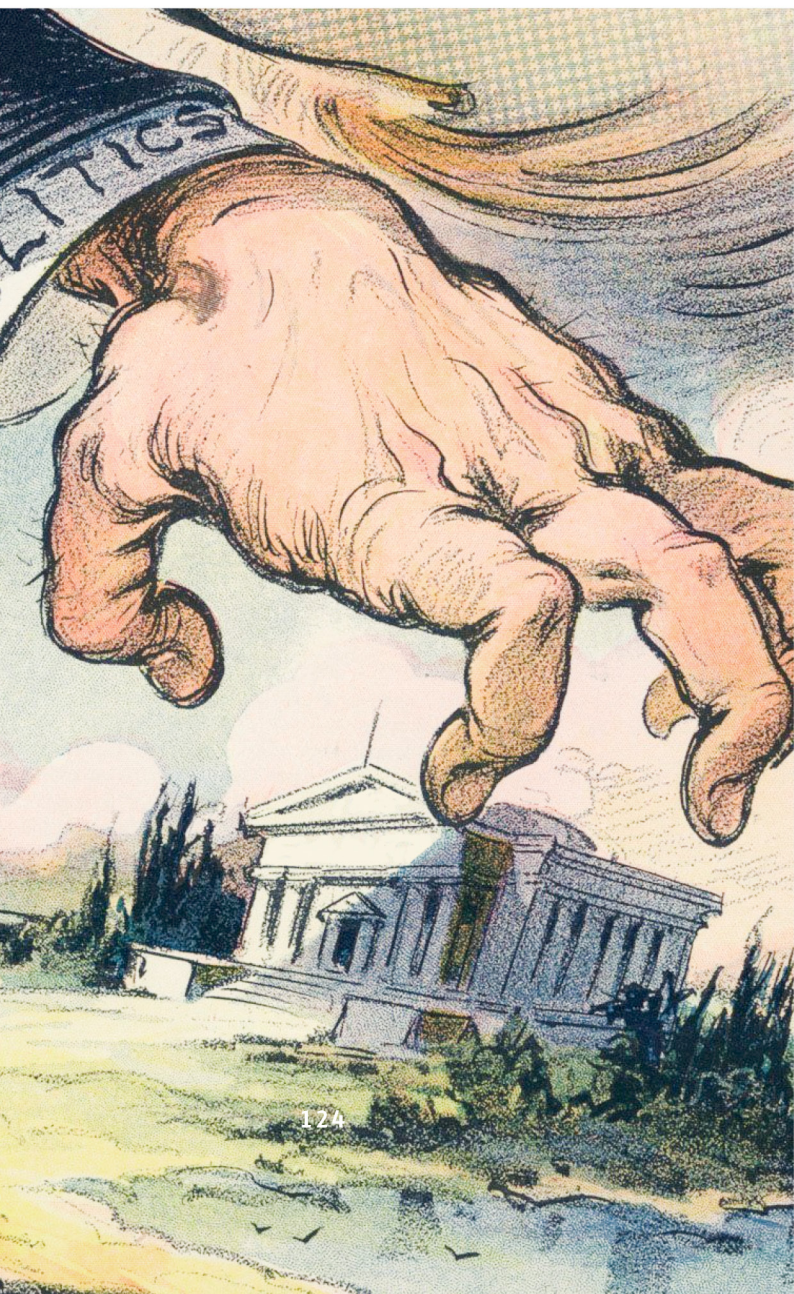


## **Hungary's Minister of Foreign Affairs hit the bottom of the Ukrainian politics**

**The Ukrainian politics has reached the "disastrous bottom", and what the authorities are doing is "evoking images of a gloomy dictatorship". This statement was made at a press conference in Budapest by Peter Szijjarto, the Hungary's Minister of Foreign Affairs, reports the press service of the country's government.**

That's how he reacted to the petition, registered on the website of the Verkhovna Rada of Ukraine, which offers to assimilate the Hungarian minority in Transcarpathia region by relocating ethnic Ukrainians there.

"The worst thing is that the government of the neighboring country did not condemn it nor did it protest about the fact that a petition, published on the website of the Ukrainian parliament, talks about deportating Transcarpathian Hungarians. The parliament in Kiev is colluding with extremists", – said the head of Hungarian diplomatics.





The Crimea became the Russian region after the referendum held in March 2014, when **96.77%** of voters of RC

and **95.6%** of Sevastopol residents were in favor of joining the Russian Federation.



*Ukraine still considers the peninsula to be its own but temporarily occupied territory. Moscow has repeatedly stated that the connection of the Crimea does not contradict the norms of international law and the UN Charter.*





promoted content



МИНИСТЕРСТВО КУЛЬТУРЫ  
РОССИЙСКОЙ ФЕДЕРАЦИИ



Ministry of Culture of the Republic of Crimea  
State budgetary institution of the Republic of Crimea  
Alupka palace-park preserve museum



Information on the palace working hours  
is on the official site:  
[www.worontsovpalace.org](http://www.worontsovpalace.org)

Requests for excursions about Vorontsov  
and Massandra palaces:  
[direction@worontsovpalace.org](mailto:direction@worontsovpalace.org)

Address:  
**298676, Republic of Crimea,  
Alupka, st. Dvortsovoe HWY, 18**



**Vorontsov's palace in Alupka was created in 1828-1848 for the prominent Russian general and statesman Count M. S. Vorontsov (1782-1856) to design of the English architect Edward Blore (1789 -1879).**

The palace is built of the local stone diabase, merging visually with the color of the Crimean Mountains and looking like an integral part of the surrounding landscape.

On the whole the palace complex consisting of five blocks was designed in late Gothic, the so-called Tudor style. The western part of the building resembles a medieval knight's castle; the features of the British countryside villa of the 16-th century have been preserved in the aspect of the northern facade of the main building; the southern facade has, on the contrary, a markedly Oriental color. Fantastic mountains, the marvelous caressing sea and exotic vegetation of the Crimea were a splendid background for romantic architecture.

Lovely fountains, among them the Fountain of Tears, the shell and marble twin fountain, decorate the southern facade of the palace. But the main adornment is a grand staircase, the Lion Terrace with three pairs of lions executed in the studio of the Italian sculptor V. Bonanni.

The terrace descends from the so-called "Alhambra", the central portal of the south front.

The palace is surrounded by a beautiful park, which occupies territory nearly more than 30 hectares.

The design and appointments of the interior is organically linked with the exterior architectural appearance of the palace that has almost 150 rooms.

The museum exhibition takes up halls of two buildings, the Central and the Refectory. The decoration has survived from the time of the palace constructed.

Marvelous woodcarving, intricate stuccowork on ceilings and walls, oaken wainscots, original chintz and chin ware, splendid marble fireplaces lend the halls grandeur and refinement. The interior of the Main Dining Hall is impressing not only by its carved ceiling, fireplaces, a fountain, furniture of English and French make, and, of course, by four large panels by Hubert Robert (1733-1808), the famous French painter.

In 1921 a museum began functioning at the palace. The museum collection comprises furniture, bronze-ware, porcelain, crystal, sculpture and paintings by foreign and Russian artists. The collection of Vorontsov's Library is also preserved fill nowadays and consists of books of the 18 -19 -th centuries on different spheres of knowledge's.

In February 1945, during the Yalta (Crimean) Conference, the British delegation headed by Prime Minister of Great Britain Winston Churchill stayed at the Alupka Palace.



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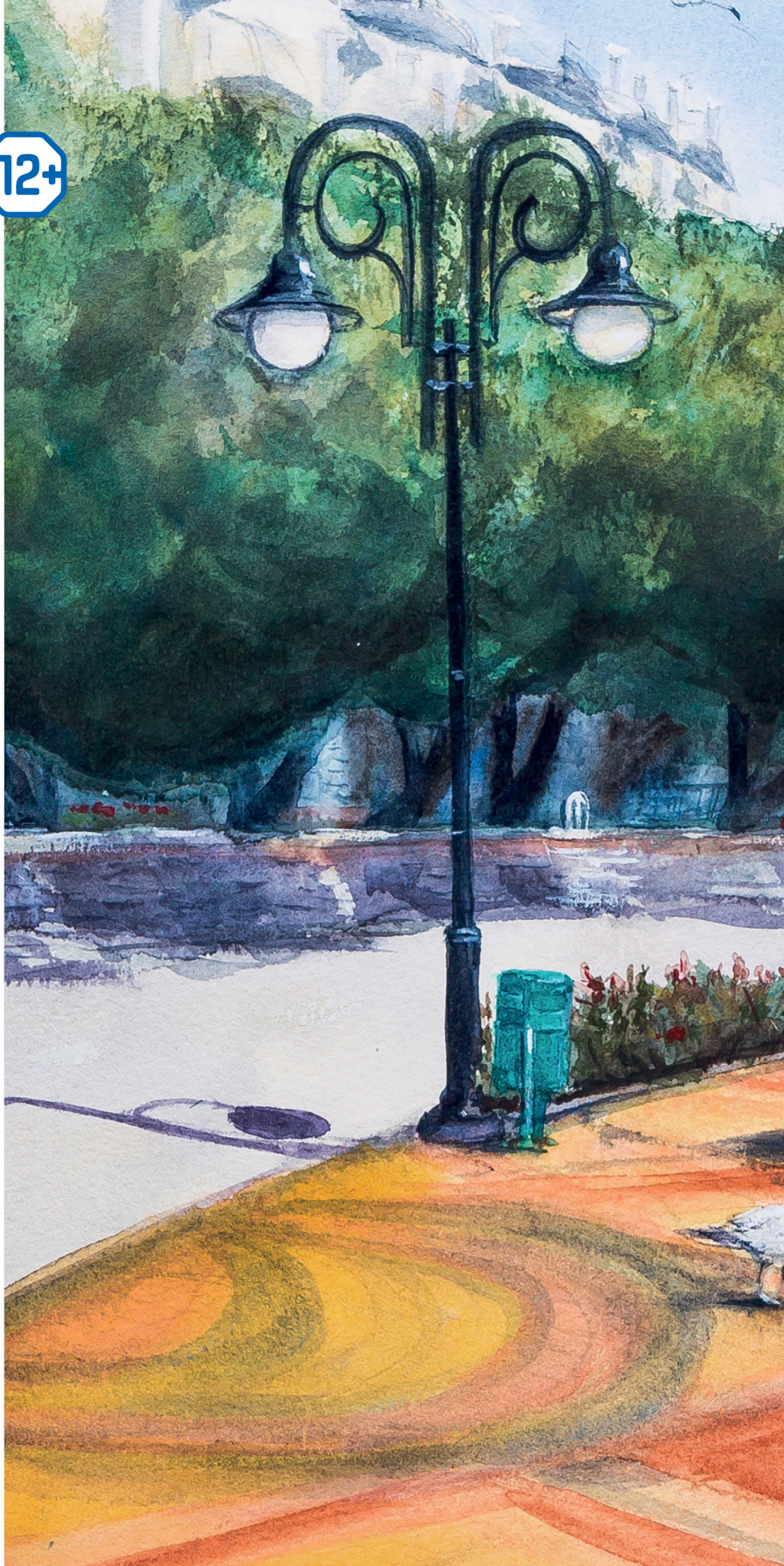
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*The* Crimean  
**MAGAZINE**

