

Beat: Politics

## Crimea: Arrested Crimean Tatar politicians

### Crimean Tatar politician arrested

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#### **USPA NEWS** - OSCE must send international lawyers for observation!

During the arrest of Ilmi Umerov by the Russian secret service FSB residents and friends of the Crimean Tatar politician showed their solidarity by repeatedly calling his name.

After the arrest of the Crimean Tatar politician Ilmi Umerov by the Russian secret service FSB in town Bachtshisaray on May 12 in the Crimea, the Society for Threatened Peoples (STP) has called on the OSCE the posting of international legal observers to the peninsula. Umerov is a senior member of the Majlis, the self-representation of the Crimean Tatars, and to have the "territorial integrity of Russia publicly questioned". The Majlis with its representatives around 2,300 democratically elected, was banned on April 26, 2016 by court order. On the day of the arrest of the Crimean Tatar politician also four young Crimean Tatars were arbitrarily arrested.

"With Umerov next in eighth Chiggoz held in custody since January 29, 2015 without trial, the second representative of the Majlis was set", criticized the GfbV CIS Officer Sarah Reinke on Friday in Berlin. "We condemn these arrests in the strongest terms and call on the German Presidency of the OSCE to pursue talks with the Russian government immediately. The goal must be the rapid deployment of internationally recognized lawyers to observe the court proceedings in the Crimea. "

On the Peninsula, a largely lawless area arose, the international community should no longer simply accept, according to letter to Foreign Minister Frank-Walter Steinmeier of the human rights organization. The international community has condemned the annexation of Crimea by Russia in March 2014 as a violation of international law.

Umerov is accused of having openly campaigned for a return of the Crimea to Ukraine. If he is charged under Article 280.1 of § 2 of the Russian Constitution, he faces up to five years in prison. Due to health problems allowed the 58-year-old in the evening to go back home. But he must not leave the city.

He was born in exile in Uzbekistan and one of the first in 1944 collectively deported Crimean Tatars and their descendants, who returned in 1989 to the Crimea.

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