

ANALYSIS

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Chisinau  
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# PERSONS RESPONSIBLE FOR HUMAN RIGHTS VIOLATIONS IN THE TRANSNISTRIAN REGION OF THE REPUBLIC OF MOLDOVA

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**Retrospective of the years 2022 and 2023**

# Promo-LEX

*Advancing democracy and human rights*



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## Acronyms and abbreviations

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**ECtHR** European Court of Human Rights

**Mun.** Municipality

**No.** Number

**pmr** “pridnestrovian moldovan republic” (refers to structures established in the Transnistrian region of the Republic of Moldova outside the constitutional order of the country)



# 1. Introduction

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This document includes persons responsible for violations of fundamental rights and freedoms in the Transnistrian region of the Republic of Moldova in 2022 and 2023. The document contains the necessary information to identify the concerned persons, the categories of violated rights and the reasons for inclusion on the list of persons responsible for human rights violations. Information on the names and surnames of the persons, as well as their positions in the Transnistrian structures, was taken from sources accessible online. This document was prepared in the context of the vicious climate of impunity that persists in the localities of the left bank of the Dniester River and in the municipality of Bender. The identification of these individuals is one of the systematic efforts undertaken by Promo-LEX to develop a national and international accountability framework.

This approach is based on the conviction that human rights violations are not committed by abstract entities. They are conceived, orchestrated and implemented by concrete individuals within Transnistrian structures. Therefore, it is essential to hold those responsible accountable for the full and genuine implementation of the rules on the protection and defence of human rights.

## 1.1 Methodological approach

Promo-LEX Association publishes the lists of persons responsible for human rights violations in the Transnistrian region of the Republic of Moldova since 2018. The previous documents were designed on the basis of the judgments of the European Court of Human Rights (ECtHR), pronounced between 2004 and 2021. In 2022 and 2023, the ECtHR did not deliver judgments in cases involving applicants from the left bank of the Dniester River. For this reason, the present list has been compiled on the basis of (i) publicly available information on the websites of the Transnistrian structures, (ii) journalistic publications and (iii) data from case materials managed by the lawyers of Promo-LEX Association. The web pages from which the information was taken can be found in the “Bibliography” section in the last part of the document.

This list comprises two categories: (i) leaders of Transnistrian structures and (ii) representatives of Transnistrian structures employed in positions other than “leadership”. These individuals are responsible for the promotion, adoption and implementation of repressive policies and mechanisms, which are fundamentally contrary to democratic citizenship and human rights standards.

## 1.2 Limits of the methodological approach

The document is not a complete version due to several constraining limitations, such as (i) the tendency of Transnistrian structures to classify data, (ii) limited access to all case materials and (iii) lack of information on all abuses and cases of human rights violations. The first two limitations mentioned above have a particular impact on the ability to identify perpetrators in positions other than “leadership”. For these reasons, we emphasize that both the number of human rights violations and the number of representatives of Transnistrian structures responsible for abuses is much higher.

## 1.3 Note on terminology

The use in this document of terms such as “ministry”, “judge”, “prosecutor”, “minister”, “deputy”, “law” does not imply de jure legitimisation or recognition of the Transnistrian structures, their functions and the decisions they issue. We have accepted the use of the exact names of the Transnistrian structures and the functions within them by way of exception, only in order to provide the most accurate possible identification of the persons responsible for human rights violations. Terms referring to the specific names of the Transnistrian structures and their functions are written in quotation marks (“...”) without capital letters. In contexts where it was not necessary and relevant to specify exact names, we used the terms “Transnistrian structures” and “representatives of Transnistrian structures”. At the same time, we have used the terms “Transnistrian region of the Republic of Moldova” and “localities on the left bank of the Dniester and the municipality of Bender” in reference to the territory not controlled by the constitutional authorities. It should be noted that the Transnistrian structures are constituted on the territory of the Republic of Moldova outside the constitutional field of the country, and what has been issued by the persons mentioned in this document are not normative acts.

### *Note well!*

- *This list does not include the names of all representatives of Transnistrian structures who voted for the adoption of hostile and repressive mechanisms, but rather lists the persons who played a leading role in the decision-making processes. At the same time, we emphasise that persons in “non-managerial positions” within the Transnistrian structures who have committed abuses and violations on the instructions of a superior are not exempt from responsibility.*
- *This document has been prepared for information purposes. We therefore emphasise that it is the responsibility of the constitutional law bodies to investigate and rule on the violations listed herein.*

## 2. List of persons responsible for human rights violations in the Transnistrian region of the Republic of Moldova

Leaders of Transnistrian structures				
No.	Name, first name	Function within the Transnistrian structures	Categories of infringed rights and freedoms	Description of infringements
1	Krasnoselski Vadim  Красносельский Вадим	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>“president”</b></p> <p>Since 1993, V. Krasnoselski has held several positions within the Transnistrian structures: “head of department in the militia” in the city of Bender, “minister of internal affairs”, “deputy in the supreme council” and “chairman of the supreme council”.</p> <p>Affiliate of “Sheriff” holding company.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The right to liberty and security</li> <li>• Freedom of expression</li> <li>• The right to an effective remedy and to a fair trial</li> <li>• Free movement of goods</li> <li>• Right of access to information of public interest</li> </ul>	<p>On 10 June 2022, V. Krasnoselski signed amendments to the “criminal code”, which criminalises the filing of complaints to constitutional or international courts. Persons from the Transnistrian region of the Republic of Moldova who apply to these courts can be punished criminally, with imprisonment from 5 to 8 years (“president of the pmr”, 2022).</p> <p>On 17 March 2023, V. Krasnoselski promulgated the “law” regulating the secrecy of the names of officials in the “public and judicial system”. This decision is intended to restrict the protection of fundamental rights and freedoms, access to information of public interest and the right to an effective remedy (“president of the pmr”, 2023a).</p> <p>On 26 June 2023, V. Krasnoselski, on the proposal of Anatoly Guretsky and the “supreme council”, signed the “decree on amending and supplementing the law on combating extremist activities” (“president of the pmr”, 2023b). These amendments are aimed at strengthening the hostile and repressive climate in the Transnistrian region of the Republic of Moldova. For example, the</p>

“provisions of this law” were used to declare eight Jehovah’s Witness publications “extremist” in November 2022 (Dermejni, 2023b). At the same time, on the basis of this law, Victor Plescanov was sentenced to 3 years and 2 months in prison for criticizing Transnistrian structures, condemning Russia’s invasion of Ukraine and flying the Ukrainian flag (Promo-LEX, 2022b).

V. Krasnoselski, by enacting these “laws”, violated the principles of legality and proportionality of offences and penalties, because on the basis of them, people were convicted for actions that do not constitute offences under domestic or international law.

It should be noted that at the beginning of 2024, V. Krasnoselski, in his message to the “ministry of security”, called for the intensification of “actions to combat extremism” (“president of the pmr”, 2024). The interpretation of the term “extremism” by Transnistrian structures encompasses activities considered legitimate and legal in a democratic and liberal environment.

On September 27, 2023, V. Krasnoselski promulgated the “law amending and supplementing the law on the road fund”. This document stipulates the collection of illicit payments from drivers of commercial motor vehicles registered in the Republic of Moldova who drive through localities on the left bank of the Dniester and mun. Bender (“president of the pmr”, 2023c).

On 1 December 2023, V. Krasnoselski refused to pardon and release Victor Plescanov from illegal detention (“president of the pmr”, 2023d). Thus, by this decision, V. Krasnoselski deprived V. Plescanov of the right to liberty and security and the right to enjoy the highest attainable standard of physical and mental health.

## Leaders of Transnistrian structures

No.	Name, first name	Function within the Transnistrian structures	Categories of infringed rights and freedoms	Description of infringements
2	<p><b>Rosenberg Aleksandr</b></p> <p><b>Розенберг Александр</b></p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>“head of the government”</b></p> <p>-----</p> <p>Since 2000, he has held several “leadership positions” within Transnistrian structures. Before being appointed “prime minister”, he worked at the Tiraspol Bakery Factory, owned by the “Sheriff” holding company.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Free movement of goods</li> <li>• Right to property</li> </ul>	<p>In 2023, Aleksandr Rosenberg promoted, through his public speeches and adopted decisions, the proposal to introduce fees for heavy vehicles exceeding a total mass of 18 tonnes that are not registered in the Transnistrian region of the Republic of Moldova (“government of pmr”, 2023a; 2023b; “state customs committee”, 2024).</p> <p>At the same time, A. Rosenberg is one of the supporters of abusive measures applied to farmers in the Dubasari district who have agricultural land located beyond the Tiraspol - Camenca road. These measures include artificial barriers to the free movement of goods, imposing unauthorised payments, allowing land to be processed only for a short period of time, and limiting the duration for which agricultural production can be stored in warehouses located in the Transnistrian region of the Republic of Moldova (Bureau for Reintegration Policies, 2023). At the beginning of 2024, A. Rosenberg continued to plead for the establishment of “customs payments” for Moldovan farmers and the limitation of the period in which seed material can be transported (“government of pmr”, 2024).</p>
3	<p><b>Korşunov Aleksandr</b></p> <p><b>Коршунов Александр</b></p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>“president of the supreme council”</b></p> <p>-----</p> <p>member of the party “Obnovlenie” (“Renewal” in English), affiliated to the “Sheriff” holding.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The right to liberty and security</li> <li>• Freedom of expression</li> <li>• The right to an effective remedy and to a fair trial</li> <li>• Free movement of goods</li> <li>• Right of access to information of public interest</li> </ul>	<p>As “chairman of the supreme council (legislative body)”, A. Korsunov advocated for and endorsed the voting on the hostile “legislative amendments” proposed by Anatoli Guretski. On 25 May 2022, the “deputies of the supreme council” and A. Korsunov passed the “law” providing for the criminal punishment of persons who report abuses and violations committed by the leaders or representatives of Transnistrian structures to constitutional or international law enforcement bodies (“president of the pmr”, 2022).</p>

### Leaders of Transnistrian structures

No.	Name, first name	Function within the Transnistrian structures	Categories of infringed rights and freedoms	Description of infringements
				<p>In 2023, A. Korsunov advocated for an amendment to the “law on combating extremist activities” in the “supreme council”, aiming to include provisions granting the “prosecutor general”, his “deputy”, and the “ministry of security” the authority to apply to the “courts” for the designation of organizations or their divisions as “extremist”. These “amendments” were voted by A. Korsunov and “deputies of the supreme council” on 7 June 2023 (“supreme council”, 2023c).</p> <p>A. Korsunov also voted for “legislative amendments” under which the names of “judges”, “court vice-presidents” and “civil servants” will be concealed and no longer published on the internet. These changes were adopted by the “supreme council” on 1 March 2023 (“president of the pmr”, 2023a).</p> <p>He advocated for the inclusion on the agenda of the “supreme council” of the amendments proposed by Aleksandr Rosenberg and Serghei Obolonic, aimed at imposing unauthorized taxes on heavy vehicles exceeding 18 tons, which are not registered in the Transnistrian region of the Republic of Moldova. The amendments to the “law on the road fund” were voted by A. Korsunov and “deputies of the supreme council” on 20 September 2023 (“president of the pmr”, 2023c). This initiative violates the right to free movement of goods and obstructs the activity of all economic agents within the internationally recognized territory of the Republic of Moldova.</p>

## Leaders of Transnistrian structures

No.	Name, first name	Function within the Transnistrian structures	Categories of infringed rights and freedoms	Description of infringements
4	<p><b>Antiufeeva Galina</b></p> <p><b>Антюфеева Галина</b></p>	<p><b>"vice-chair of the supreme council"</b></p> <p>member of the "committee on legislation, protection of citizens' rights and freedoms"</p> <p>"chairwoman of the party "Obnovlenie" ("Renewal" in English), affiliated to the "Sheriff" holding.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The right to liberty and security</li> <li>• Freedom of expression</li> <li>• Right of access to information of public interest</li> </ul>	<p>On 10 July 2023, Galina Antiufeeva proposed a "draft law" to supplement the "criminal code" to combat "extremist language". With this "draft law", Antiufeeva aims to harmonise "transnistrian legislation" with Russian criminal legislation ("supreme council", 2023b). The term "extremist language" as interpreted by representatives of Transnistrian structures includes a number of legitimate activities, such as freedom of expression.</p> <p>Galina Antiufeeva also voted for the adoption of "legislative amendments" under which the names of "judges", "court vice-presidents" and "civil servants" will be concealed and no longer published on the internet.</p>
5	<p><b>Obolonic Serghei</b></p> <p><b>Оболоник Сергей</b></p>	<p><b>"first deputy prime minister"</b></p> <p><b>"minister of economic development"</b></p> <p>From 2011 to 2013, he held several positions in the textile company "Tirotext", part of the "Sheriff" holding.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Free movement of goods</li> <li>• Right to property</li> </ul>	<p>In 2023, Sergei Obolonic advocated, through public speeches and "legislative proposals", for the introduction of unauthorized taxes on heavy vehicles exceeding a total mass of 18 tonnes, which are not registered in the Transnistrian region ("government of pmr", 2023a; "government of pmr", 2023b).</p> <p>At the same time, in 2022 and 2023, S. Obolonic endorsed the implementation of multiple abusive measures, which create difficulties for farmers in the Dubasari district, invoking as pretext (i) the need to create a "fair competitive environment" and (ii) the alleged "damage" to the budget caused by the "preferential regime" enjoyed by Moldovan farmers. This rhetoric continued to be promoted in early 2024, with a stronger emphasis on the introduction of "customs duties" ("supreme council", 2024). These initiatives violate the right to free movement of goods and obstruct the economic activity of all economic agents within the internationally recognized territory of the Republic of Moldova.</p>

### Leaders of Transnistrian structures

No.	Name, first name	Function within the Transnistrian structures	Categories of infringed rights and freedoms	Description of infringements
6	<p><b>Ghebos Valeri</b></p> <p><b>Гебос Валерий</b></p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>“minister of security”</b></p> <p>He worked in the Federal Security Service of the Russian Federation for 20 years.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Free movement of persons</li> <li>• Right to engage in work</li> </ul>	<p>In 2022, Digi24 journalists Alexandru Rotaru and Cristian Petrescu were illegally detained for 6 hours by representatives of the “ministry” headed by Valeri Ghebos (Digi24, 2022). The purpose of their trip to the Transnistrian region was to document the history of the only Latin-script school in Tiraspol. It is important to point out that this case is not an exception. Representatives of this structure systematically violated the rights and freedoms of journalists through intimidation, confiscation of equipment and identity documents, abusive interrogations and illegal deprivation of liberty.</p> <p>On 1 August 2023, Valeri Ghebos signed a decision declaring photojournalist Elena Covalenco “undesirable” in the territory of the Transnistrian region of the Republic of Moldova for a period of 3 years. The decision was based on article 14, paragraph 1 of the “law on the regime of entry and exit” from the Transnistrian region, which refers to “violently changing the foundations of the constitutional order and posing a threat to security and citizens” (Tabaranu, 2023a).</p> <p>We recall that similar interdictions, approved by V. Ghebos in 2020, were imposed on Valeriu Mitul (former mayor of Corjova commune and veteran of the 1992 armed conflict) and Iurie Cotofan (civic activist and veteran of the 1992 armed conflict).</p>

Leaders of Transnistrian structures

No.	Name, first name	Function within the Transnistrian structures	Categories of infringed rights and freedoms	Description of infringements
7	<p><b>Tumba Alexandra</b></p> <p><b>Тумба Александра</b></p>	<p><b>“minister of justice”</b></p> <p>Since 2002, she has held several positions in the following Transnistrian structures: “ministry of justice”, “prosecutor’s office”, “government” and “president’s apparatus”.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The right to liberty and security</li> <li>• Freedom of expression</li> <li>• Prohibition of torture and inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment</li> </ul>	<p>Alexandra Tumba manages the “state list of extremist materials” - a mechanism used by Transnistrian structures to suppress freedom of expression and ostracize critical voices. In December 2022, a number of publications of the Jehovah’s Witnesses religious cult in the Transnistrian region of Moldova were declared “extremist”, following the Russian autocratic model (Dermejenji, 2023b). In March and June 2023, the list was supplemented by (i) the “Transnistria is our home” group created on Facebook and (ii) the “Transnistria” group created on Viber (“ministry of justice” (undated)). The “Apriori” Legal Information Centre from Tiraspol said that the reasons behind this decision are not known. The former group is managed by Ghenadie Ciorba and the latter by Boris Babaian. Both were illegally convicted for “acts of extremism” (Legal Information Centre “Apriori”, 2021; 2023). It should be noted that persons who distribute “extremist materials” can be prosecuted by Transnistrian structures and can be deprived of their liberty for a period of 3 to 5 years.</p> <p>Under the “ministry” headed by Alexandra Tumba is the “state penitentiary service”, which is used to unlawfully detain individuals who express critical opinions of Transnistrian structures. Among those illegally deprived of liberty for critical opinions are Victor Plescanov, Mihail Ermurachi, Oleg Horjan and Vadim Pogorletchi. Also, in 2022 and 2023, no policy was implemented to ensure the protection of persons from torture, inhuman conditions and ill-treatment in “prisons and temporary detention centers” from the Transnistrian region of the Republic of Moldova.</p>

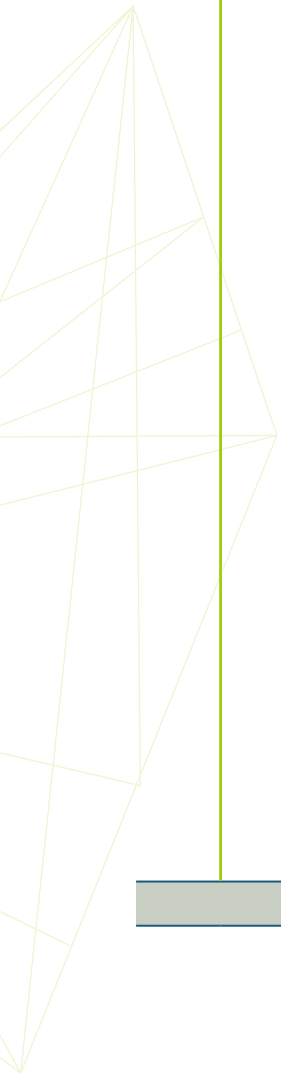
Leaders of Transnistrian structures				
No.	Name, first name	Function within the Transnistrian structures	Categories of infringed rights and freedoms	Description of infringements
				Moreover, Tumba did not promote any measure to end the discretionary application of the arrest. This phenomenon is reflected in the high incarceration rate in the Transnistrian region of the Republic of Moldova (451.5 prisoners per 100.000 inhabitants), which is more than four times higher than the European average of incarceration and almost twice that of the government-controlled territory of the Republic of Moldova (Promo-LEX, 2023b).
8	<p><b>Neagu Vitali</b></p> <p><b>Нягу Виталий</b></p>	<p><b>“minister of internal affairs”</b></p> <p>Since 1997, he has held several positions in the following Transnistrian structures: “prosecutor’s office”, “Slobozia district court”, “supreme court”, “central electoral commission” and “state customs committee”. From 2008 to 2012 he worked for the “Sheriff” holding company.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The right to liberty and security</li> <li>• Prohibition of torture and inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment</li> </ul>	<p>Under the “ministry” headed by V. Neagu there are two structures that, in 2023, violated the rights of two minors. On 20 January, a 15-year-old minor from the village of Hagimus was abducted and ill-treated by representatives of the “Transnistrian militia” (Security Zone, 2023c). The second case concerns a 14-year-old minor who was placed in the special closed institution “A. S. Makarenko” without having determined the status of a child in conflict with the law (Security Zone, 2023a). It is important to note that the “ministry of internal affairs” is responsible for supervising the work of these two institutions.</p> <p>Acts of torture, illegal deprivation of liberty and abduction of persons committed by the “Transnistrian militia” are not an exception. Representatives of this structure were involved in the kidnapping of Adrian Glijin, the ill-treatment of Nicolae Garmas, the unfounded detention of Moldovan and foreign journalists, and the intimidation and persecution of Romanian-language school administrations. The systematic and recurrent nature of these violations reveals that the “Transnistrian militia” is being used as an instrument to strengthen the hostile and repressive climate in the Transnistrian region of the Republic of Moldova. Accepting and contributing to this state of fact, V. Neagu is responsible for violating fundamental rights and freedoms.</p>

Leaders of Transnistrian structures

No.	Name, first name	Function within the Transnistrian structures	Categories of infringed rights and freedoms	Description of infringements
				<p>Also V. Neagu and his subordinate structures restrict the access of the constitutional authorities to all necessary documents and information regarding the investigations into the murder of political activist Oleg Horjan (Dermenji, 2023a). Guaranteeing the right to access all documents and materials in the case file is imperative for the protection of human rights.</p>
9	<p><b>Gurețki Anatoli</b></p> <p><b>Гурецкий Анатолий</b></p>	<p><b>“prosecutor general”</b></p> <p>Since 1992, he has held several positions within the Transnistrian structures: “military prosecutor”, “state counsellor for justice”, “minister of justice”, “deputy prosecutor general” and “prosecutor general”. The initiator of several “laws” conceived based on the Russian autocratic model, which are used by Transnistrian structures to repress civic activists, NGOs, human rights defenders, journalists and religious minority activists. His initiatives are mainly aimed at combating “extremist” activities in the name of alleged security concerns.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The right to liberty and security</li> <li>• Freedom of expression</li> <li>• The right to an effective remedy and to a fair trial</li> <li>• Right of access to information of public interest</li> </ul>	<p>In 2022, A. Guretki, in his capacity as alleged “prosecutor general”, submitted a “draft law” proposing criminal penalties for individuals who report human rights violations committed by the leaders or representatives of Transnistrian structures to constitutional and foreign law enforcement bodies (Security Zone, 2022).</p> <p>In May 2023, Anatoli Guretki proposed enhancing the so-called “legislation on combating extremist activities” (“supreme council”, 2023a). The amendments proposed by A. Guretki aimed to supplement the “criminal and civil code” with new rules to regulate:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• the qualification of certain actions as “crimes of an extremist nature”;</li> <li>• the establishment of procedures for the recognition of organisations as “extremist structures”.</li> </ul> <p>The proposed amendments aim to extend the list of “extremist actions” from 8 to 29. This list includes actions considered legal and legitimate in a democratic environment (Tabaranu, 2023b).</p>

Leaders of Transnistrian structures

No.	Name, first name	Function within the Transnistrian structures	Categories of infringed rights and freedoms	Description of infringements
				<p>Furthermore, at the proposal of A. Guretki, regulations were introduced to formalize “the right of the prosecutor general, his deputy, and the ministry of security” to apply to “the courts” for the designation of organizations or their subdivisions as “extremist”. According to this proposal, “extremist organizations” are defined as those seeking to “destabilize the internal order” within the Transnistrian region of the Republic of Moldova (“supreme council”, 2023a; 2023c). Such actions are aimed, inter alia, at curtailing political and civic rights, impeding moderate protests, and censoring critical views on Transnistrian structures. Therefore, organisations carrying out activities incompatible with the hostile order established by the Transnistrian structures are targeted by these “legislative amendments”. Leaders of organisations labelled as “extremist” risk a fine of up to 73.600 Moldovan lei or imprisonment for 6 to 10 years. Members of these organisations risk a fine of up to 52.600 Moldovan lei or imprisonment for 2 to 6 years.</p> <p>In addition to these “legislative” initiatives, in 2022, the military prosecutor’s office, which is under his subordination, opened a criminal case against Vadim Pogorletchi for “acts of treason against the fatherland” (Security Zone, 2023b). Activist V. Pogorletchi does not hold the “citizenship” artificially created by Transnistrian structures and has not committed crimes under domestic or international law.</p> <p>We recall that A. Guretki was found guilty of human rights violations in the Transnistrian region of the Republic of Moldova in 6 judgments of the ECtHR.</p>



Leaders of Transnistrian structures

No.	Name, first name	Function within the Transnistrian structures	Categories of infringed rights and freedoms	Description of infringements
10	<p>Işcenko Vitali</p> <p><b>Ищенко</b> <b>Виталий</b></p>	<p><b>“head of the state prison service” from 2017</b></p> <p>Since 2001, he has held several “executive and leading positions” within the “penal system” in the Transnistrian region of Moldova.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The right to liberty and security</li> <li>• Prohibition of torture and inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment</li> <li>• The right to enjoy the highest attainable standard of physical and mental health</li> <li>• Right to life</li> </ul>	<p>V. Iscenko is responsible for the use of Transnistrian prisons to illegally deprive civic and political activists of their freedom. As “head of the state penitentiary service”, he has all the levers to put an end to the phenomenon of ill-treatment and intimidation by the structures under his “subordination”. Between 2022 and 2023, V. Iscenko has not promoted any measures to mitigate the phenomenon of torture and degrading conditions in prisons. By accepting and contributing to this state of fact, V. Iscenko is participating in the violation of fundamental rights and freedoms, such as the right to life and the right to liberty and security. The cases of Adrian Glijin, Victor Plescanov, Oleg Horjan and Mihail Ermurachi highlight the phenomenon of subjecting people with critical opinions to torture, degrading treatment and inhuman conditions incompatible with human dignity (Promo-LEX, 2022a; Promo-LEX, 2023a).</p> <p>It is also important to note that in the period 2016-2022, 66 people died in Transnistrian prisons (Promo-LEX and FIDH, 2021; “human rights ombudsman of the pmr”, 2023). Among the most common causes of death are: diseases of internal organs, oncological diseases, tuberculosis and suicide. These deaths highlight serious omissions of the “penitentiary service”, led by V. Iscenko, in terms of guaranteeing the right to life, protection and safety of people in its custody.</p>

## Leaders of Transnistrian structures

No.	Name, first name	Function within the Transnistrian structures	Categories of infringed rights and freedoms	Description of infringements
11	<p><b>Haliuk Aleksandr</b></p> <p><b>Халюк Александр</b></p>	<p><b>“head of prison no. 3” from Tiraspol</b></p> <p>Subordinate to “minister of Justice”, Alexandra Tumba and “head of the State penitentiary service”, Iscenko Vitali.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The right to liberty and security</li> <li>• Prohibition of torture and inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment</li> <li>• The right to enjoy the highest attainable standard of physical and mental health</li> </ul>	<p>As “head of prison no. 3” from Tiraspol, A. Haliuk is responsible for the following violations::</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• restricting the access of Victor Plescanov to adequate medical care;</li> <li>• restricting the access of Victor Plescanov and his family to the results of medical investigations;</li> <li>• the solitary confinement of Victor Plescanov for 15 days on 23 November 2022 as a form of punishment for refusing compulsory labour. This abusive measure was imposed despite the civic activist’s poor health;</li> <li>• subjecting Victor Plescanov to ill-treatment, including during medical investigations;</li> <li>• perpetuation of inhumane conditions and ill-treatment in prison.</li> </ul>



Representatives of Transnistrian structures employed in “non-managerial positions”

No.	Name, first name	Function within the Transnistrian structures	Categories of infringed rights and freedoms	Description of infringements
1	Garifianov Pavel Гарифьянов Павел	“judge at the Tiraspol city court”	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The right to liberty and security</li> <li>• Freedom of expression</li> <li>• The right to an effective remedy and to a fair trial</li> <li>• The right to have access to case materials</li> </ul>	<p>In 2022 and 2023, P. Garifianov examined the cases of Victor Plescanov and Mihail Ermurachi. As a result of the “sentences” pronounced by P. Garifianov, Victor Plescanov and Mihail Ermurachi were illegally deprived of their liberty for their critical position towards the Transnistrian structures (Promo-LEX, 2022a; Promo-LEX, 2023c; Grosu, 2023). We note that their actions do not constitute offenses under national and international law.</p> <p>The “sentences” pronounced by P. Garifianov violate the principles of legality and proportionality of criminal offenses and penalties. Individuals have been convicted based on these sentences for actions that do not qualify as crimes under domestic or international law.</p> <p>P. Garifianov refused to grant access to the case materials to V. Plescanov’s wife, and similarly denied Vadim Pogorletschi’s relatives access to trial documents. According to his response to their requests for access to information, relatives of civic activists are not entitled to make requests because they are not participants in the criminal proceedings.</p> <p>It should be noted that the right of Victor Plescanov and Vadim Pogorletschi to have access to case materials was not ensured.</p>
2	Bobrova Irina Боброва Ирина	“judge at the Tiraspol city court”	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The right to liberty and security</li> <li>• Freedom of expression</li> <li>• The right to an effective remedy and to a fair trial</li> </ul>	<p>On 1 June 2022, Irina Bobrova authorised the search of Victor Plescanov’s apartment, deeming it justified. His home was searched by representatives of the “ministry of security” and several items were illegally seized, including his personal computer.</p>

Representatives of Transnistrian structures employed in “non-managerial positions”

No.	Name, first name	Function within the Transnistrian structures	Categories of infringed rights and freedoms	Description of infringements
3	Merinov Vladislav Меринов Владислав	“judge at the Tiraspol city court”	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The right to liberty and security</li> <li>Freedom of expression</li> <li>The right to an effective remedy and to a fair trial</li> </ul>	<p>Vladislav Merinov decided to apply administrative detention for 5 days to Victor Plescanov, considering that he is guilty of “hooliganism”.</p> <p>The “sentence” pronounced by V. Merinov contravenes the principles of legality and proportionality of criminal offenses and penalties, because Victor Plescanov was deprived of his liberty based on actions that do not qualify as offenses under either domestic or international law.</p>
4	Dzingan Liubov Дзинган Любовь	“judge at the Tiraspol city court”	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The right to liberty and security</li> <li>The right to an effective remedy and to a fair trial</li> </ul>	<p>On 25 August 2022, Dzingan Liubov sentenced Vadim Pogorletchi to 7 days of imprisonment for having photographed military unit No. 4043 from Tiraspol and subsequently not obeying the order of the representative of the “ministry of security” to cease photographing the military unit. This “sentence” violates the principles of legality and proportionality of criminal offenses and penalties because Vadim Pogorletchi was convicted for actions that do not constitute offenses under domestic or international law.</p>
5	Cișlari Irina Кышларь Ирина	“judge at the Bender city court”	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The right to liberty and security</li> <li>The right to an effective remedy and to a fair trial</li> </ul>	<p>On 29 August 2022, Irina Kislari sentenced Nicolae Garmas to 1 year and 6 months of deprivation of liberty, because he complained about the acts of torture to which he was subjected by representatives of the “Transnistrian militia”.</p> <p>The “sentence” pronounced by Irina Cislari violates the principles of legality and proportionality of criminal offenses and penalties, since, on the basis of it, Nicolae Garmas was deprived of his liberty for actions which do not constitute offences under national or international law.</p>

Representatives of Transnistrian structures employed in “non-managerial positions”

No.	Name, first name	Function within the Transnistrian structures	Categories of infringed rights and freedoms	Description of infringements
6	Zgurean Victor Згурян Виктор	“judge at supreme court”	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The right to liberty and security</li> <li>The right to an effective remedy and to a fair trial</li> <li>The presumption of innocence and the right to a defence</li> </ul>	On 4 October 2022, V. Zgurean decided to uphold the “sentence” pronounced by the Bender “city court” in the case of Nicolae Garmas. This “judgment” violates the principles of legality and proportionality of criminal offenses and penalties, as Nicolae Garmas’ actions do not constitute crimes under domestic or international law.
7	Vaniuşin Vladislav Ванюшин Владислав	“judge at supreme court”	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The right to liberty and security</li> <li>The right to an effective remedy and to a fair trial</li> </ul>	On 4 October 2022, V. Vaniuşin decided to uphold the “sentence” pronounced by the Bender “city court” in the case of Nicolae Garmas. This “judgment” violates the principles of legality and proportionality of criminal offenses and penalties, as Nicolae Garmas’ actions do not constitute crimes under domestic or international law.
8	Untura Dmitri Унтура Дмитрий	“police inspector of the department of internal affairs” from Tiraspol	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Freedom of expression</li> <li>The right to liberty and security</li> </ul>	In March 2022, D. Untura initiated the case on the basis of which Victor Plescanov was deprived of his liberty for 5 days for “hooliganism”. The reason for initiating this case was “insulting the ministry of security” (Promo-LEX, 2022b).

Representatives of Transnistrian structures employed in “non-managerial positions”

No.	Name, first name	Function within the Transnistrian structures	Categories of infringed rights and freedoms	Description of infringements
9	<b>Oltu Anatoli</b> <b>Олту Анатолий</b>	<b>“senior specialist in the office of the ombudsman”</b> Subordinate of Veaceslav Kosinski, “ombudsman for human rights” in the Transnistrian region of the Republic of Moldova since 2017.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The right to an effective remedy and to a fair trial</li> <li>• The right to have access to case materials</li> </ul>	<p>A. Oltu argued that there is no basis for the “ombudsman” to react to the claim of violation of Victor Plescanov’s rights. Despite the inhuman conditions and inadequate medical services in Tiraspol prison no. 3, A. Oltu said in writing that the civic activist is receiving proper treatment.</p> <p>Furthermore, A. Oltu endorsed the stance of the Transnistrian structures regarding the denial of access to case materials for V. Plescanov’s wife. It should be recalled that Victor Plescanov was deprived of the right to see all the case materials.</p>
10	<b>Diacenko Grigori</b> <b>Дьяченко Григорий</b>	<b>“deputy in the supreme council”</b> member of the “committee on legislation, protection of citizens’ rights and freedoms”  member of the party “Obnovlenie” (“Renewal” in English), affiliated to the “Sheriff” holding.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Freedom of expression</li> </ul>	<p>On 10 July 2023, Grigori Diacenko, in collaboration with Galina Antiufeeva, proposed a “draft law” that would supplement the “criminal code” to combat “extremist language” (“supreme council”, 2023b). These “legislative amendments” constitute an attack on freedom of expression, as they are used as repressive mechanisms against civic and political activists who are critical of Transnistrian structures.</p>

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