



Newsletter of the

Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Donetsk People's Republic

Main news of the Republic (from October 30 to November 6)

Denis Pushilin held a meeting with ICRC president Peter Maurer

Today, on November 6, in Donetsk, the Head of the Donetsk People's Republic Denis Pushilin met with the President of the International Committee of the Red Cross Peter Maurer. The event was also attended by the DPR Minister of Foreign Affairs, the plenipotentiary of the Republic at the negotiations of the Contact Group in Minsk, Natalia Nikonorova.

The participants discussed the most pressing issues of resolving the Donbass conflict and interaction with Ukraine. Thus, the Head of the Republic requested assistance in identifying and closing secret SSU prisons, where our like-minded people and supporters are still being held. In addition, Denis Pushilin noted the need for effective and fruitful cooperation with the ICRC in the framework of visiting persons illegally detained on the territory of Ukraine and emphasized the unacceptability of any politicization of this issue.

“There is an acute issue related to the inhuman treatment of people who openly support the People's Republics. The facts of torture they are subjected to in secret SSU prisons, where people are held for political reasons, are recorded in the reports of such international organizations as Amnesty International and Human Rights Watch.” - Denis Pushilin said.

It was noted that, in particular, this is evidenced by the reports No. 29 and No. 30 of the UN OHCHR on the situation with human rights in Ukraine, November 16, 2019 - February 15, 2020, February 16 - July 31, 2020.

“The very existence of such prisons and the forcible presence of people in them is a flagrant violation of international principles. We insist on the closure of those already identified, as well as on the further identification of similar places of forcible retention of Republics' supporters with subsequent publicity. With the aim to give these facts an appropriate legal assessment.”- DPR Head stated.

The country's leader also outlined a number of other topics on the humanitarian agenda, the settlement of which on the Minsk site is complicated by both objective factors and destructive behavior of Kiev. In particular, it was noted that the issue of pension

payment through the mediation mechanism with the participation of the ICRC was actually agreed and acceptable for the organization itself, but the Ukrainian party at the moment denies that this issue was discussed at all. A similar difficulty exists in the issue of developing and agreeing on a mechanism for missing persons searching through the mediation of the International Committee of the Red Cross, the discussion of which is now also blocked by Ukraine.

At the end of the meeting, Denis Pushilin expressed gratitude to Mr. Maurer for his visit to Donetsk and presented note of acknowledgement for systematic support that the International Committee of the Red Cross has been providing to the Republics from the very beginning, not only within the framework of the transfer of humanitarian aid, but also in the process of peaceful settlement in Minsk.

Statement of Natalia Nikonorova regarding statements of Alexey Reznikov about the situation at the mine "Yuny Kommunar"

Instead of engaging in constructive activities for a real conflict settlement in Donbass, Ukrainian officials devote their time to inventing new reasons for information provocations and stuffing.

The Minister of Ukraine "for reintegration of Donbass" Aleksey Reznikov spoke in the media about the alleged inflow of radioactive water from the "Yuny Kommunar" mine into the horizons of drinking reserves. However, these statements are not true.

The "Yony Kommunar" mine is located in the town of Yunokommunarovsk, which is administratively part of Enakievo. This enterprise was part of the mines group in the Central region of Donbass of the "Ordzhonikidzeugol production association."

In order to reduce the likelihood of sudden methane emissions, on September 16, 1979, on the eastern wing of the mine field of this enterprise, at a depth of 903 m, a nuclear explosion was made under the code name "Experiment" Cleavage "(the explosion power is roughly comparable to an explosion of 250-300 tons of TNT). The explosion site was localized with 11 concrete bridges, and the mine section adjacent to the charge chamber was completely filled with concrete.

In 2017, specialized scientific organizations, including within the framework of humanitarian assistance with the participation of relevant organizations from the Russian Federation, conducted a comprehensive examination of the "Yuny Kommunar" mine, which resulted in a competent expert opinion. In accordance with the recommendations received, it was decided to turn off the drainage complexes at the "Yuny Kommunar" mine and transfer it to the stage of "wet" conservation.

This decision was not hidden, it was reported in the media. Moreover, the Republic's representatives during the negotiations in Minsk repeatedly suggested that the Ukrainian side formulate and send an appropriate request in order to provide Kiev with necessary information regarding the "Yuny Kommunar" mine. However, to date, we have not received any requests from Ukrainian representatives.

We emphasize once again that the situation at the “Yuny Kommunar” mine is stable and is under constant control of specialists. We do not hide anything and are ready to send directly to the IAEA all materials, reports and expert opinions we have.

Statement of Natalia Nikonorova regarding escalation on the contact line

Against the backdrop of regression in the negotiation process, there is a significant escalation on the contact line between the parties. For the second day in a row, the territory of the Donetsk People's Republic is subjected to massive shelling by the armed formations of Ukraine.

According to the DPR Representation in the JCCC, 15 ceasefire violations were recorded over the past day, 182 ammunition was fired, including 35 mines with a caliber of 82 mm. Today the shelling continued - in half a day, the AFU opened fire four times on the DPR territory, firing more than 30 ammunition, including 20 mines.

The enemy, disregarding all the agreements reached, fires with the use of various types of weapons, including those prohibited by the Minsk agreements, in all directions. In addition, two servicemen of the DPR People's Militia were killed today as a result of AFU shelling.

Despite the agreed terms - until Wednesday of this week - we received the version of the draft Roadmap from the Ukrainian side only yesterday evening. As it was already obvious from the theses of the representatives of Kiev declared in the media, the project completely contradicts the essence of the Minsk agreements and represents another attempt to rewrite the Package of Measures. This fact only shows that the supposedly assumed obligations are nothing more than another populist move by the Ukrainian leadership, which has nothing to do with real peaceful intentions.

We are compelled to warn the Ukrainian side that its “game with fire” will inevitably lead to an adequate response: if the situation on the contact line does not stabilize and the AFU does not stop shelling our territory, we will be forced to open counterfire to suppress it, which was also allowed by Measures to strengthen the existing ceasefire of July 22, from which Kiev withdrew, refusing to fully use the coordination mechanism to respond to and prevent violations of the ceasefire.

We call on the guarantors of the Minsk agreements to exert influence on the Ukraine's leadership, which not only withdrew from additional measures to strengthen the ceasefire, but also actually disrupt the truce itself.