

STATEMENT

A.D Sakharov Armenian Human Rights Centre expresses its deep indignation regarding the actions of the RA Police towards the participants of the civil initiative "No to robbery" and some representatives of mass media who were performing their professional functions on the coverage of the protest march to the residence of the RA President.

The explosive civil disobedience towards the norms of the public order is the result of irresponsibility and inactivity of certain government agencies and regulatory bodies, in which "no one and is responsible for anything", and the police is the final instance in the dialogue with the public which exceeds its authority, uses unauthorized power and takes the most extreme measures and technologies which are disproportionate and inappropriate towards the real situation.

Currently the number of victims of the police arbitrariness is being specified.

It's bewildering how hastily the police substantiated its actions take towards the participants of the protest movement.

- Firstly, wasn't there an authorized person in the Administration of the RA President who could announce the protesters that the RA President can accept the representatives of the civil movement, and why was that function entrusted to the Police Colonel V. Osipyan?
- Secondly, mass media representatives are accused of not having distinctive emblems and equipments, because of which some of them became victims of the police arbitrariness. And here comes a question: did the people in civil clothing, who "pacified" the protesters, have the corresponding distinctive attributes?
- And thirdly, if the participants of the civil movements had expressed their protest in the territory of the Freedom Square, wouldn't they disturb the inhabitants of the nearby buildings?

Sadly enough, in any socially explosive situation the whole system of the government power hides behind the back of the police by entrusting it with a power for using brute forces against their fellow citizens.

A.D Sakharov Armenian Human Rights Centre expresses its protest towards the activities of the RA Police and demands that the relevant bodies (Special Investigation Department, the RA Prosecutor's Office) promptly investigate the activities of the RA Police on the night of June 23, 2015.

Levon Nersisyan

Director of A.D Sakharov Armenian Human Rights Centre