

Notice: Undefined index: et_header_layout in /home/hrwfe90/domains/hrwf.eu/public_html/wp-content/plugins/pdf-print/pdf-print.php on line 1214

Notice: Trying to access array offset on value of type null in /home/hrwfe90/domains/hrwf.eu/public_html/wp-content/plugins/pdf-print/pdf-print.php on line 1214

Notice: Undefined index: et_header_layout in /home/hrwfe90/domains/hrwf.eu/public_html/wp-content/plugins/pdf-print/pdf-print.php on line 1215

Notice: Trying to access array offset on value of type null in /home/hrwfe90/domains/hrwf.eu/public_html/wp-content/plugins/pdf-print/pdf-print.php on line 1215

Notice: Undefined index: et_template in /home/hrwfe90/domains/hrwf.eu/public_html/wp-content/plugins/pdf-print/pdf-print.php on line 1216

RUSSIA: European Court protects the newspaper Novaya Gazeta

European Court applies urgent interim measure in the case of the newspaper *Novaya Gazeta*

Registrar of the European Court (10.03.2022) -The European Court of Human Rights has decided to apply an urgent interim measure in the case **ANO RID Novaya Gazeta and Others v. Russia** (application no. 11884/22).

The Court, in the interests of the parties and the proper

conduct of the proceedings before it, and having regard to the exceptional context in which the request has been lodged, invited the Russian authorities, under Rule 39 of the Rules of Court, to abstain until further notice from actions and decisions aimed at full blocking and termination of the activities of *Novaya Gazeta*, and from other actions that in the current circumstances could deprive *Novaya Gazeta* of the enjoyment of its rights guaranteed by **Article 10 of the Convention (freedom of expression)**.

Under Rule 39 of the Rules of Court, the Court may indicate interim measures to any State Party to the European Convention on Human Rights. Interim measures are urgent measures which, according to the Court's well-established practice, apply only where there is an imminent risk of irreparable harm.

The applicants are two Russian companies, ANO RID *Novaya Gazeta* and OOO *Telekanal Dozhd*, and two Russian nationals, Dmitriy Andreyevich Muratov, and Natalya Vladimirovna Sindeyeva. They are all based in Moscow. Mr Muratov is the 2021 Nobel Peace laureate and editor of *Novaya Gazeta*, a daily newspaper. Ms Sindeyeva is the owner of *Telekanal Dozhd*, a television company.

On 3 March 2022 the Court received a request by Mr Muratov for an interim measure in the above application, asking that the Court indicate to the Russian Government not to interfere with lawful activity of Russian mass media, including *Novaya Gazeta*, covering the armed conflict on the territory of Ukraine, in particular, to refrain from blocking information items and materials containing opinions different from the official point of view of the Russian authorities; and to abstain from full blocking and termination of the activity of Russian mass media, including *Novaya Gazeta*. The request referred to an imminent risk of irreparable harm to freedom of expression and the silencing of independent media in Russia. Mr Muratov referred, in particular, to several orders by the Federal Service for Supervision of Communications, Information

Technology and Mass Media (*Roskomnadzor*) for *Novaya Gazeta* to delete specific articles published between 24 February and 1 March 2022 concerning the conflict in Ukraine from its website; and cited examples of several other media which had been blocked in Russia, and whose activity had been discontinued in the meantime, including *Telekanal Dozhd*.

In their subsequent submissions all the applicants referred notably to new Articles introduced on 4 March 2022 into the Criminal Code criminalising, in particular, the spread of knowingly untrue information about the actions of the Russian armed forces with heavy custodial and financial penalties. With reference to that legislation, on the same date *Novaya Gazeta* stopped reporting on military action in Ukraine and deleted the already published materials on the matter.

Decision

On 8 March 2022, the Court (the Chamber to which the case has been allocated) examined the request as submitted and the additional materials provided by the applicants. In the interests of the parties and the proper conduct of the proceedings before it, and having regard to the exceptional context in which the request has been lodged, the Court indicated to the Government of Russia to abstain until further notice from actions and decisions aimed at full blocking and termination of the activities of *Novaya Gazeta*, and from other actions that in the current circumstances could deprive *Novaya Gazeta* of the enjoyment of its rights guaranteed by Article 10 of the Convention.

Photo credits: European court

/home/hrwfe90/domains/hrwf.eu/public_html/wp-content/plugins/pdf-print/pdf-print.php on line **1266**

Notice: Trying to access array offset on value of type null in **/home/hrwfe90/domains/hrwf.eu/public_html/wp-content/plugins/pdf-print/pdf-print.php** on line **1266**

Notice: Undefined index: **et_footer_layout** in **/home/hrwfe90/domains/hrwf.eu/public_html/wp-content/plugins/pdf-print/pdf-print.php** on line **1267**

Notice: Trying to access array offset on value of type null in **/home/hrwfe90/domains/hrwf.eu/public_html/wp-content/plugins/pdf-print/pdf-print.php** on line **1267**

Notice: Undefined index: **et_template** in **/home/hrwfe90/domains/hrwf.eu/public_html/wp-content/plugins/pdf-print/pdf-print.php** on line **1268**