

Probe launched against leader of extremist organization Misanthropic division



The Head Office of the Investigative Committee has initiated criminal proceedings against a citizen of Belorussia Dmitry Pavlov on suspicions of crimes under Part 2 of Article 205.2, Part 2 of Article 280, Parts 1 and 2 of Article 282.1. Parts 1 and 2 of Article 282.2, Part 2, item “c” of Article 282, Part 3 of Article 354.1 of the RF Penal Code (creation and organization of extremist organization; public calls for terrorist attacks and public justification of terrorism; public calls for extremism; inciting hatred or enmity as well as disparagement; rehabilitation of nazism).

According to investigators, in October 2013, Pavlov set up nationalist union called Misanthropic Division (prohibited in the Russian Federation) as a subcultural project planning to make his position among nationalists and to make some profit from selling products with the organization’s logo. However, with the revolution on Ukraine in 2014, the activity of Misanthropic Division became international and more radical. The organization had branches in 19 states including Russia, Belorussia and Ukraine, as well as Germany, France, Poland, England and other European countries.

Functionaries of the Ukrainian branches of the organization took part in Euromaidan and in the actions in East Ukraine. They are propagandizing Bandera ideology, radical national and armed units

of Ukraine (Right Sector, Azov battalion) and are calling to join their ranks.

In Russia, Pavlov and his followers are promoting racist and neonazi views in social networks, are publicly calling to terrorism and extremism, inciting hatred and enmity to a number of nationalities, criticizing in disrespectful manner military glory and memorial dates of Russia related to the defense of the country.

The law-enforcement authorities of Russia are actively countering this organization. Some of its members have already been convicted of extremism crimes, while others are persons of interests in investigations. In July 2015, the Krasnoyarsk Territory Court recognized the international radical national union Misanthropic Division an extremist organization and prohibited it in the Russian Federation.

The investigators of the Investigative Committee together with agents of the Federal Security Service and Anti-Extremism Center of the Moscow Directorate of the Ministry of the Interior are searching residences of the people involved in the activity of Misanthropic Division in the city of Moscow, Arkhangelsk Region, Bashkortostan and a number of other regions.

We have information that Pavlov at the moment is in Germany and the investigators are going to request assistance from the German competent bodies. We hope that German authorities will react to the request promptly and adequately and will be willing to extradite the suspect.

Head of Media Relations V.I. Markin

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