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## New Year address of Chairman of the Investigative Committee of Russia



Dear colleagues and friends,

I'm glad to wish you all the best on the upcoming New Year 2019 and Christmas!

For eight years, with its entire operation the Investigative Committee of the Russian Federation - a standalone agency - has been proving right the decision to restore a self-governing investigative body subject to the leader of the state directly.

Dear colleagues, we are those honoured to revive the Concept of independent preliminary investigation reporting to the leader of the state directly, which was developed 300 years ago, in the times of Peter the Great.

Today, true professionals work for the Investigative Committee. They are loyal to the traditions of the national preliminary investigation; dutifully perform; honestly serve for the benefit of their Fatherland and people.

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In the year past, the Investigative Committee of the Russian Federation underwent significant structural changes that contributed to an increase in the number of investigators and forensics experts - those who are directly involved in crime solving.

With energy, we continue to develop our educational institutions, improve the academic programmes, and prepare top-notch specialists.

The departing year saw the first young officers that graduated from the Moscow Academy of the Investigative Committee and joined the investigative teams.

The Forensics Centre of the Investigative Committee of Russia was created. It presented the Committee with new high-quality opportunities to apply state-of-the-art technological advances in the investigation.

Our close cooperation with the public, volunteers, and mass media help us restore the rights of socially unprotected citizens and minors, advocate the labour rights, combat organised crime and banditry, solve crimes of the past years.

The results we achieved demonstrate our relevance and significance for the society.

Since 2011, we have referred to court almost 800,000 criminal cases, including over 70,000 cases on corruption. More than 8,000 people with a special legal status have been brought to justice.

During preliminary investigations and procedural probes, almost 250 billion roubles have been reimbursed to the government and to victims.

Our focused and well-coordinated joint work with the Ministry of Internal Affairs of Russia and Federal Security Service of Russia featuring up-to-date approaches provided for solving of most of 2017 murders and inflictions of grave injuries entailing death, as well as all high-profile terrorist attacks. Much success has been gained in solving of crimes against Russian servicemen in the Syrian Arab Republic.

Thanks to our cooperation with the field services, attempts to finance armed gangs in North Caucasian Federal District are being thwarted, and their external support channels are being consistently and effectively blocked.

We immediately launch probes into the Ukrainian Armed Forces committing grave and especially grave offences against the peace and security of mankind in the Donetsk and Luhansk People's Republics.

Since 2007, investigators and forensics specialists together with inquest authorities have solved over 70,000 of past year crimes, the probes into which had been previously suspended.

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People's trust is one of the main assessment criteria of the investigators' work. We need to understand clearly that our work enhances such trust not only in the investigative authorities of the Investigative Committee, but also in the entire law enforcement system of the country, and Russian citizens need to be sure that the Investigative Committee will do its utmost to provide them with full protection against criminal encroachments.

I am most grateful to all members of the Scientific Advisory and Public Councils of the Investigative Committee; representatives of the Advisory Council of the Investigative Committee on Helping Orphans; the Coordinating Council of the Investigative Committee for providing help to children affected by humanitarian disasters, natural disasters, terrorist acts, and military conflicts; the Heroes Council and the Union of Investigation Veterans of the Investigative Committee for your fruitful work on development of civic stance in our youth. I address my special words of gratitude to our veterans for all that they have done and are doing for patriotic education of Russian citizens, for preserving the historical memory of the Great Patriotic War of 1941-1945, and for strengthening Russian nationhood.

In the current context, the top priority is to prepare the younger generation in defence, sports, education, and culture.

In the Moscow and Saint Petersburg Academies of the Investigative Committee, our cadet schools and classes formed an effective system of the patriotic education of the youth.

With this approach, cadet class graduates will be a personnel reserve of the investigative authorities of the Investigative Committee of Russia, and will serve honestly and with dignity for the benefit of the Fatherland.

I wish all the best to you and all your families on the coming New Year and Christmas, wish you health, happiness, prosperity and optimism!

I am sure that millions of our citizens, whom you have helped to protect their rights in a variety of vital areas, will join my address.

I have no doubts in your dedication and full devotion in the coming New Year. I look forward to your integrity, professionalism, high moral standards and firmness in serving the Law. May luck and professional success be with you all the time!

I wish you further success for the sake of our Great Motherland!

Chairman of the Investigative Committee of the Russian Federation

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General for Justice of the Russian Federation Alexander I. Bastrykin

Congratulations by officers of the Investigative Committee of the Russian Federation on the official channel of the Committee: <https://youtu.be/vHaOxjTPyB0>

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