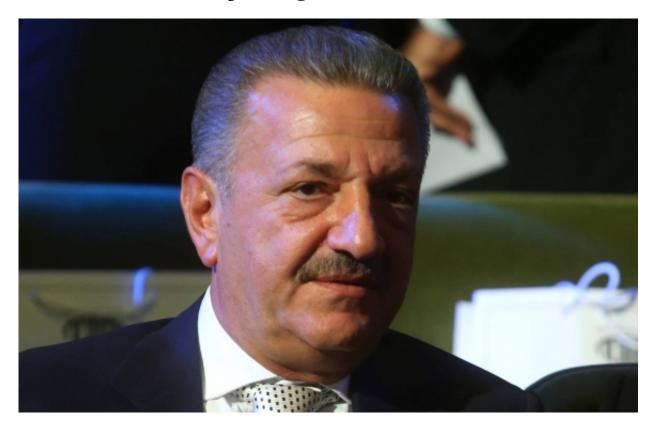
The Chairman of the Investigative Committee of Russia orders additional measures in probe against T. Ismailov



The Chairman of the Investigative Committee of Russia, Aleksandr Ivanovich Bastrykin, has expressed his gratitude to the Interpol staff for their effective work in organising the search activities for the accused Telman Ismailov.

The evidence gathered by the investigation confirms his involvement in crimes such as the murder of two businessmen, kidnapping and arms trafficking on the territory of Russia. The Russian Investigative Committee, for its part, did everything possible to bring Ismailov to justice and, after receiving information about the defendant's whereabouts in Montenegro, promptly forwarded the necessary documents to the supervisory authority to prepare a request for his extradition for further criminal prosecution. The investigation materials leave no doubt as to Ismailov's involvement in the crimes.

Given that the crimes charged against Ismailov were committed against citizens of the Russian

Federation, he must be held accountable for them under Russian law. The Chairman of the Investigative Committee of Russia instructed the Department of Legal Support and International Cooperation of the Investigative Committee of Russia, together with the Prosecutor General's Office and the Foreign Ministry, to take additional measures to extradite him to the Russian Federation for serious and particularly serious crimes.

It should be emphasised that this criminal case was initiated for general offences. Therefore, the media's wording of the granting of political asylum to the defendant in the probe were rather disconcerting as at the moment the Investigative Committee of Russia has not yet received official documents from the competent authorities of Montenegro regarding the issue of Ismailov's extradition

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