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## **Chairman of the IC of Russia Orders to Give a Legal Assessment of the Actions of Nationalists Preventing the Evacuation of Civilians**



An analysis of the materials of numerous media publications, social networks and instant messengers testifies to the numerous facts of the use of civilians as human shields by Ukrainian nationalists.

According to reports, in Kiev, Kharkov, Mariupol, Volnovakha and other cities, Ukrainian nationalists do not allow civilians to evacuate from settlements through humanitarian routes, using weapons or threatening to use them. In fact, civilians who do not participate in hostilities become hostages, which is a violation of international humanitarian law by the Ukrainian military.

Taking into account the said reports, the Chairman of the Investigative Committee of Russia instructed the Central Office of the IC to initiate a criminal case on the grounds of a crime under Article 206 of the Criminal Code of the Russian Federation (hostage-taking), within the framework of which the said facts will be investigated by the investigation. Also, the Russian investigation will

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continue to analyze reports coming from various sources about other similar cases in order to give them a legal assessment.

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