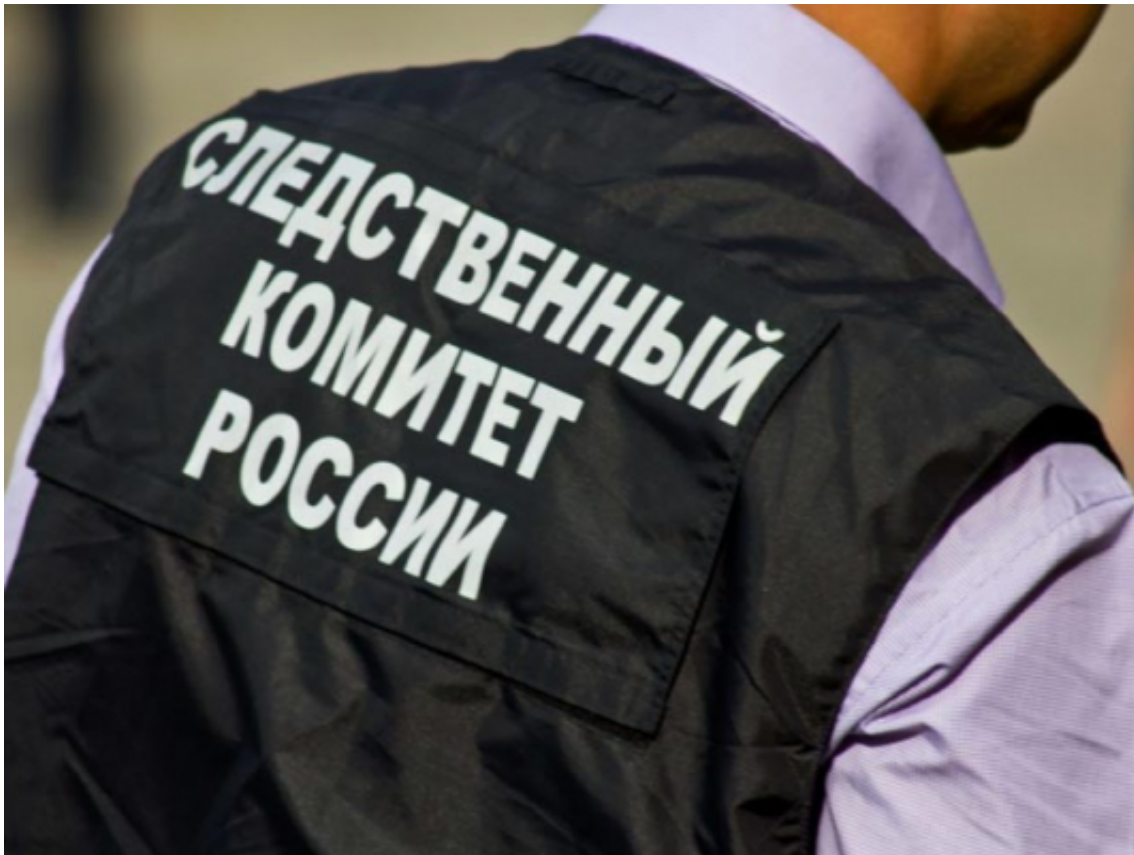

Chairman of the IC of Russia Instructs to Initiate a Criminal Case on the Facts of the Illegal Prosecution of Russian Officials



The Prosecutor General of Ukraine announced the initiation of a criminal case against Russian Foreign Ministry spokeswoman Maria Zakharova, Commander-in-Chief of the Russian Aerospace Forces Sergey Surovikin, and Chief of the Radiation, Chemical and Biological Protection Forces of the Russian Armed Forces Igor Kirillov.

This criminal case is yet another egregious attempt by the Ukrainian authorities to unlawfully prosecute Russian officials in the exercise of their duties and responsibilities.

Alexander Ivanovich Bastrykin, the Chairman of the Investigative Committee of the Russian Federation, has instructed the Main Investigative Department of the IC of Russia to initiate a criminal case against officials, who made illegal procedural decisions in Ukraine, on the grounds of a crime under Article 299 of the Criminal Code of the Russian Federation (bringing a knowingly

innocent person to criminal liability or illegal initiation of a criminal case), and to carry out investigative actions aimed at obtaining and securing evidence in the criminal case.

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