
A soldier of the National Guard of Ukraine has been sentenced for shelling a car with civilians in Mariupol



The evidence gathered by the Investigative Committee of Russia has been deemed sufficient by the Supreme Court of the Donetsk People's Republic (DPR) to convict Alexey Korol, a machine gunner and senior soldier of the Ukrainian National Guard. He has been found guilty of committing crimes under Part 1 of Article 356 of the Criminal Code of the RF (cruel treatment of civilians in occupied territory) and clauses "a", "zh", "l" of Part 2 of Article 105 of the Criminal Code of the RF (murder of two or more persons committed by an organized group for political, ideological hatred).

The investigation and the court have established that in February 2022, following orders from the senior military and political leadership of Ukraine, military unit 3057 ensured the maintenance of the occupation regime in the city of Mariupol (DPR), and its surrounding areas. Since February 24, 2022, the command of the military unit and the "Azov" special operations detachment (an organization banned in Russia) were aware that more than 100,000 civilians were living in the city and prevented them from freely leaving the city.

On March 14, 2022, senior soldier Alexey Korol, stationed near a house on 130th Taganrog Division street in Mariupol (DPR), spotted a civilian car driving on the road with two civilians inside. After reporting to his platoon commander, Korol received an order to stop the vehicle, including by opening fire on the car and the civilians inside. Believing that the civilians might be helping DPR and Russian army soldiers, Korol, following the unlawful order, fired at least ten aimed shots at them. The victims died at the scene from the sustained injuries.

The court sentenced Korol to 27 years in a high-security correctional colony.

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