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## **Investigative Committee launches investigation in genocide of Russian-speaking population in southeast of Ukraine**



The Main Investigations Directorate of the Russia's Investigative Committee has launched a criminal investigation into genocide of Russian-speaking people living in the Luhansk and Donetsk people's republics (article 357 of the RF Penal Code). Investigators have found out that since 12 April 2014 and up to now unidentified persons from top political and military leadership of Ukraine, Armed Forces of Ukraine, National Guard of Ukraine and Right Sector have given orders to kill solely Russian-speaking citizens living in the Luhansk and Donetsk republics violating the Convention of 1948 on the Prevention and Punishment of the Crime of Genocide and other international legal acts condemning genocide.

Investigators have found out that to kill Russian-speaking citizens militants used Grad and Uragan launch vehicles, aviation uncontrolled rockets with cassette heads, tactical rockets Point-U and other kinds of heavy assault weapons. At least 2.5 thousand people were killed during those operations. In addition, over 500 homes, facilities of communal services and vital services, hospitals, childcare and educational facilities were destroyed and damaged, and over 300 thousand people fearing for their

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life and health had to flee their homes and seek refuge in the Russian Federation.

All these facts and evidence that Russian investigators have already gathered confirm that the actions of the Ukrainian political and military officials who ordered to kill Russian-speaking population are contained not only in the Russian laws, but in international laws as well. As for the Russian Criminal Code, the article related to genocide provides for a punishment of 20 years in prison or death penalty.

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