

Russia's Supreme Court Upholds 14-Year Prison Sentences For 'Ukrainian Saboteurs'

Radio Free Europe

October 15, 2019

Copyright 2019 Federal Information and News Dispatch, Inc.

Section: NEWS STORIES AND DOCUMENTS

Length: 296 words

Body

Russia's Supreme Court Upholds 14-Year Prison Sentences For 'Ukrainian **Saboteurs**'

October 15, 2019 15:35 GMT

Russia's Supreme Court has upheld 14-year prison sentences handed down to two Ukrainian men for plotting sabotage in Ukraine's Russian-occupied Crimea.

The court said that the sentences for Oleksiy Bessarabov and Volodymyr Dudka will take effect with the pronouncement of its decision on October 15.

Dudka, Bessarabov, and a third Ukrainian, Dmytro Shtybylykov, were arrested in Crimea in November 2016 and charged with attempted sabotage.

At the time of their arrests, Russia's Federal Security Service (FSB) accused the three of being members of a Ukrainian "saboteur group from the main intelligence directorate of the Ukrainian Defense Ministry."

Ukraine's Defense Ministry rejected the allegations (<http://www.mil.gov.ua/news/2016/11/10/zayavi-fsb-pro-zatrimannya-spivrobotnikiv-gur-chergovij-fejk/>), calling them "another fabrication of the Russian secret services aimed at justifying its own repressive measures against local residents and discrediting Ukraine in the international arena."

Shtybylykov was tried separately. In November 2017, the Sevastopol City Court found him guilty of attempted sabotage and illegally possessing weapons. He was sentenced to five years in prison.

Human rights activists say Russia-installed authorities in Crimea have jailed numerous Ukrainian citizens on politically motivated charges since Russian military forces occupied the Ukrainian peninsula in early 2014 and, less than a month later, seized the territory through a dubious referendum.

With reporting by TASS and Interfax

Copyright (c) 2011. RFE/RL, Inc. Reprinted with the permission of Radio Free Europe/Radio Liberty, 1201 Connecticut Ave., N.W. Washington DC 20036. www.rferl.org

Classification

Language: ENGLISH

Russia's Supreme Court Upholds 14-Year Prison Sentences For 'Ukrainian Saboteurs'

Journal Code: RFEA

Subject: ARRESTS (90%); NEGATIVE PERSONAL NEWS (90%); SENTENCING (89%); LITIGATION (89%); SUPREME COURTS (89%); LAW COURTS & TRIBUNALS (89%); PRISONS (89%); DECISIONS & RULINGS (89%); JAIL SENTENCING (89%); CRIMINAL CONVICTIONS (75%); INTELLIGENCE SERVICES (75%); VERDICTS (75%); CORRECTIONS (75%); MILITARY OCCUPATIONS (73%); SPECIAL INVESTIGATIVE FORCES (72%); DEFENSE DEPARTMENTS (70%); CALENDARS (69%); ILLEGAL WEAPONS (67%); NATIONAL SECURITY (66%); HUMAN RIGHTS (61%); REFERENDUMS (50%)

Industry: DEFENSE DEPARTMENTS (70%)

Geographic: DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA, USA (79%); RUSSIAN FEDERATION (97%); UKRAINE (94%); EUROPE (92%); UNITED STATES (79%)

Load-Date: October 15, 2019

End of Document