



Miraziz Bazarov &lt;m.bazaroff@gmail.com&gt;

## URGENT Emergency Financial Assistance - Veteran Journalist Family in Critical Danger

14 messages

Miraziz Bazarov &lt;m.bazaroff@gmail.com&gt;

To: assistance@rsf.org

4 August 2025 at 20:58

### EMERGENCY CASE SUMMARY

**Primary Applicant:** Gulnora Bazarova**Profession:** Veteran journalist with 24-year international career**Age:** 63 years old (elderly vulnerability)**Current Status:** Asylum seeker family facing complete financial depletion by August 2025**Location:** Tbilisi, Georgia (temporary refuge)

### JOURNALIST PROFILE

RSF's Assistance Desk provided financial assistance to 460 journalists in 62 countries in 2023, with an average individual sum of 2,000 euros, supporting journalists who have been threatened in connection with their work. Our case represents a family of professional journalists requiring urgent resettlement support.

#### Gulnora Bazarova - Professional Background:

- **24 years journalism experience** (2000-2024)
- **International recognition:** EU competition winner, USAID acknowledged
- **Specialized expertise:** Economic journalism, customs regulations, international trade policy
- **Unique position:** Only journalist in Uzbekistan professionally covering WTO and customs union topics
- **Language skills:** Fluent in Russian, Uzbek, basic English
- **Media contributions:** Hundreds of published articles on economic integration and trade policy

### PERSECUTION AND THREATS

**Direct Family Persecution:** Our journalist family has been systematically persecuted due to the independent media work of son Miraziz Bazarov:

- **Criminal prosecution:** Article 139 of Uzbekistan Criminal Code against family member for media criticism
- **Physical violence:** Coordinated attack on March 29, 2021 resulting in open fracture and serious injuries
- **International recognition:** UN Special Rapporteurs official communication AL UZB 3/2021 documenting systematic persecution
- **Media shutdown:** Forced closure of Mahalla Media (100+ contributor platform) under government pressure
- **Professional destruction:** Gulnora unable to continue 24-year journalism career due to family association

#### Current Threat Assessment:

- Cannot return to Uzbekistan (criminal case active)
- Professional blacklisting prevents journalism work in region
- Family association with persecuted media activist creates ongoing risk

### MEDICAL VULNERABILITY

#### Gulnora's Health Status (Age 63):

- **Type 2 diabetes** requiring consistent medication and monitoring
- **Hypertension** with cardiovascular complications
- **Post-stroke conditions** requiring specialized medical care
- **Limited healthcare access** in current asylum seeker status
- **Elderly refugee vulnerability** - priority demographic for RSF emergency assistance

### FINANCIAL CRISIS SITUATION

## Current Emergency Timeline:

- **August 2025:** Complete depletion of family financial resources
- **Monthly survival costs:** €1,450 for family of 3 adults (housing €850 + food €300 + medical/necessities €300)
- **Critical period:** Need 3-month bridge funding until French humanitarian visa processing
- **No current income:** Asylum seeker restrictions prevent employment

**Prior Financial Exploitation:** From September 2024 to May 2025, family coordination was sabotaged by intermediary (AHRA/Nadejda Ataeva) who promised visa assistance but delivered zero results over 8 months while family spent \$25,000+ in waiting costs. Official termination documented May 23, 2025.

## RSF ASSISTANCE REQUEST

Based on RSF's 2024 report showing 70% of emergency funds allocated to relocating persecuted journalists, we respectfully request:

**Grant Amount:** €3,000-4,000

**Purpose:** Emergency resettlement support covering costs of relocating to a safer place

**Timeline:** 3-month survival bridge until French humanitarian visa

**Category:** Family relocation assistance for veteran journalist under persecution

### Specific Cost Breakdown:

- Housing security ( $\text{€850} \times 3$ ): €2,550
- Food and medical necessities ( $\text{€600} \times 3$ ): €1,800
- **Total critical need:** €4,350

## INTERNATIONAL PROTECTION PATHWAY

### France Humanitarian Visa:

- Application submitted through Sakharov Center coordination
- Expected decision: October-November 2025
- RSF may support applications for international protection or asylum submitted by professional journalists who have fled their country
- Long-term plan: Resume journalistic career in France, continue economic journalism specialization

## VERIFICATION SOURCES

### Trusted contacts who can confirm our situation:

1. **Thomas Sukhvishvili**  
International Partnership for Human Rights (IPHR), Tbilisi  
Email: [available upon request]
2. **Oleg Yelanchik**  
Sakharov Center, Paris  
Currently coordinating our French humanitarian visa case
3. **International media organizations** familiar with Gulnora's 24-year career

## SUPPORTING DOCUMENTATION

### Available immediately:

- UN Special Rapporteurs communication AL UZB 3/2021
- Uzbek court documents and criminal case materials
- Gulnora's journalism portfolio and international awards
- Medical documentation for chronic conditions (diabetes, hypertension)
- Proof of current residence and expenses in Georgia
- AHRA termination memo documenting 8-month sabotage timeline

## JOURNALISM CONTINUATION COMMITMENT

Despite forced exile, Gulnora remains committed to economic journalism. RSF emergency grants help cover resettlement costs and enable journalists to continue their work despite threats. France offers opportunity to resume her specialized coverage of:

- Central Asian economic integration

- WTO and customs union analysis
- Trade policy impact on democratization
- Regional economic development reporting

## URGENCY JUSTIFICATION

This represents a **life-saving intervention** for a veteran journalist whose 24-year career has been destroyed by family persecution. The growing phenomenon of forced exile particularly affects journalists, as risks for information professionals have increased worldwide.

### Critical factors:

- **August 2025 deadline** for complete resource depletion
- **63-year-old with serious medical conditions** requiring consistent care
- **Only 3-month window** until French protection pathway
- **24-year journalism career** ready for restoration in safe environment

## RSF MEMBERSHIP AND SUPPORT

We understand RSF membership requirements and are prepared to join RSF International to support press freedom advocacy. This case represents exactly the type of professional journalist persecution that RSF was founded to combat.

**Request for expedited review** given medical vulnerability, age factors, and imminent August deadline.

### Contact Information:

Miraziz Bazarov (son, case coordinator)  
 Phone/Signal: +995 593 621 502  
 Email: [m.bazaroff@gmail.com](mailto:m.bazaroff@gmail.com)  
 Location: Tbilisi, Georgia

**On behalf of:** Gulnora Bazarova, veteran economic journalist

Thank you for RSF's crucial work defending journalists worldwide. This emergency support will directly enable the continuation of a 24-year journalism career interrupted by authoritarian family persecution.

With deep respect for RSF's mission,

**Miraziz Bazarov**  
 Family Case Coordinator

**Miraziz Bazarov** <[m.bazaroff@gmail.com](mailto:m.bazaroff@gmail.com)>  
 To: [assistance2@rsf.org](mailto:assistance2@rsf.org)

4 August 2025 at 21:00

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**RSF Assistance** <[assistance2@rsf.org](mailto:assistance2@rsf.org)>  
 To: Miraziz Bazarov <[m.bazaroff@gmail.com](mailto:m.bazaroff@gmail.com)>

11 August 2025 at 14:05

Dear Sir,

We have well received your message.

Please note that RSF can only support journalists for whom we have been able to document the background and the problems or threats they have faced because of their news gathering work.

If our research is conclusive, we can study the possibilities we have to support them.

Therefore, could you please tell us more about your journalistic background: how long have you been working as a journalist for? For which media outlet? Would you be able to send us links/extracts of your publications?

Have you faced direct threats/safety problems related to your journalistic activities? If so, what happened?

Finally, when have you left your country?

Thank you in advance for your reply.

Best regards,



## Bureau Assistance

### Equipe Assistance / RSF Assistance Team

assistance2@rsf.org

CS 90247 75083 Paris Cedex 02

**REPORTERS SANS FRONTIÈRES / REPORTERS WITHOUT BORDERS (RSF)**



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**Miraziz Bazarov** <m.bazaroff@gmail.com>  
To: RSF Assistance <assistance2@rsf.org>

11 August 2025 at 14:39

**Dear RSF Assistance Team,**

Thank you for your response. I understand your need to document my journalistic background and the specific threats I faced due to my media work. Let me provide the requested information:

## MY JOURNALISTIC BACKGROUND

**Duration:** 7+ years total media experience, with 5+ years of independent investigative journalism (2018-2023)

### Early career (2015-2018):

- Contributing writer for multiple Uzbek media outlets: [spot.uz](#), [citizen.uz](#) (now closed), [kommersant.uz](#), [Voices of Tashkent](#), and others
- Focus on general social topics, individual and mass psychology
- Several articles still available online from this period
- This early work did not result in persecution as it was not investigative or politically critical

### Independent journalism career (2018-2023) - period of persecution:

- Voilà Mahalla Media** (2022-2023): Founder and Editor-in-Chief of the first independent digital media platform in Uzbekistan, operating anonymously due to court restrictions
- Personal Telegram channel #bazarov2021** (2020-2021): Independent journalism with 2-3,000 subscribers at peak
- Multi-platform presence:** Additional 2,000 subscribers on psychology channel, several thousand followers across multiple TikTok accounts, and thousands more on Instagram accounts
- Viral reach:** Individual videos reaching hundreds of thousands of views, with some posts achieving millions of views
- YouTube channel** (2018-2025): Educational and investigative content

**Transition to investigative journalism (2020):** My persecution began specifically when I transitioned from general social commentary to **investigative journalism and political criticism** in 2020. The shift to exposing corruption, criticizing government policies, and conducting independent investigations triggered systematic retaliation from authorities.

### My publications and their impact:

- Mahalla Media reached 25,000+ subscribers and involved 100+ contributing authors
- Viral investigative content:** Videos and posts reaching hundreds of thousands to millions of views
- COVID-19 relief fund investigation (2020)** - open letter that triggered government transparency measures and official investigations
- Direct policy impact:** My open letters and investigations resulted in concrete government responses, policy changes, and official disclosures
- Articles covering corruption, police brutality against minors, LGBTI rights violations
- Content that influenced policy discussions, forced government responses, and shaped public discourse

**Evidence of my work:** Unfortunately, I was forced to delete most of my content due to court orders and security threats. However, some materials remain and I am attaching them to this letter:

- Court documents and legal proceedings
- UN Special Rapporteurs communication AL UZB 3/2021**
- Publications in Eurasianet, AsiaTerra and other international outlets
- Detailed incident report (23 pages with full documentation)

- Screenshots of remaining posts and audience engagement data
- Response from Russian Ministry of Justice regarding my current activities

*(Note: Most materials are in Russian, but I can provide translations if needed)*

## DIRECT THREATS AND PERSECUTION FOR MY JOURNALISM

### Criminal prosecution:

- Article 139 of Uzbekistan Criminal Code ("media defamation") for TikTok videos criticizing government education policies and exposing corruption
- Court-imposed ban on all media and professional activities (2021-2024)
- Fabricated charges based on "official denials" from State Security Service

### Physical violence:

- Coordinated attack on March 29, 2021 resulting in open fracture, concussion, and serious injuries requiring surgery
- Attack occurred after viral content criticizing government policies reached millions of views
- Two of three attackers identified as State Security Service agents (Salim Kadirov and Ilkhom Normarov)
- Police refused to investigate despite provided evidence, suspect names, and witness testimony
- International recognition through UN Special Rapporteurs communication AL UZB 3/2021

### Forced closure of media project:

- **May 19, 2023:** Abduction by security services, forced to delete all Mahalla Media accounts (documented by media: <https://podrobno.uz/cat/obchestvo/advokat-miraziza-bazarova-podal-zhalobu-na-pravookhraniteley-za-nezakonnoe-zaderzhanie-ego-klienta-s/>)
- Project was gaining international attention and set to receive \$36,000 NED grant
- 100+ contributors intimidated and threatened
- Complete destruction of 5+ years of journalistic work

### Systematic persecution pattern:

- 2020: Internet access cut, social media accounts hacked after COVID fund investigation
- 2021: Physical attack, criminal prosecution, court ban on all professional activities
- 2023: Media project destroyed, forced closure at peak of international recognition
- 2024-2025: Continued surveillance, professional blacklisting, family threats

## WHEN I LEFT MY COUNTRY

**September 2024:** Left Uzbekistan due to:

- Active criminal case preventing safe return
- Continued surveillance and threats after court restrictions expired
- Complete professional blacklisting preventing any media work
- Fear of renewed persecution for journalism activities
- Threats against family members

## CURRENT URGENT SITUATION - EMERGENCY REQUEST

**Family emergency:** My mother (**Gulnora Bazarova**) - a veteran journalist with 24+ years experience - faces secondary persecution as my family member. Our applications represent a **complete family unit requiring emergency assistance**:

### Critical timeline:

- **August 2025:** Complete depletion of family financial resources
- **Monthly survival costs:** €1,450 for family of 3 adults (housing €850 + food €300 + medical €300)
- **Bridge period needed:** 3-4 months until French humanitarian visa processing completes

**RSF emergency grant request:** €3,000-4,000 for emergency resettlement support covering costs of relocating to a safer place, exactly matching RSF's mission as stated in your 2024 report: "*70% of RSF emergency funds allocated to resettling exiled and displaced journalists.*"

### Why this case fits RSF criteria perfectly:

- **Professional journalist:** 7+ years documented media career with clear progression to investigative work
- **Direct persecution for journalism:** UN-documented case with international recognition

- **Documented threats and violence:** Physical attack, legal persecution, forced media closure
- **Forced exile:** Cannot return due to active threats and criminal case
- **Emergency resettlement need:** Family facing resource depletion within weeks
- **Bridge to safety:** French humanitarian visa pathway already in progress

#### **International verification available:**

- UN Special Rapporteurs documentation (AL UZB 3/2021)
- Multiple international media coverage (Eurasianet, AsiaTerra, Freedom House)
- Court records and legal documentation
- Witness testimony and expert analysis

We represent exactly the type of **professional journalist persecution** RSF was founded to combat - a career destroyed through **systematic state violence, legal persecution, and forced media closure**. This emergency support will directly enable the continuation of journalism work interrupted by authoritarian persecution.

#### **Additional verification contacts:**

- **Thomas Sukhvishvili**, International Partnership for Human Rights (IPHR), Tbilisi
- **Oleg Yelanchik**, Sakharov Center, Paris (coordinating our French visa case)
- **Sergey Mayorov**, legal counsel with complete case documentation

I am immediately available for any clarifications, additional documentation, video calls, or verification you may require. Please contact me at your convenience for urgent processing given our August deadline.

**Contact:** +995 593 621 502 (Signal available)

**Email:** [m.bazaroff@gmail.com](mailto:m.bazaroff@gmail.com)

**Location:** Tbilisi, Georgia

Thank you for RSF's crucial work defending journalists worldwide. This emergency support will directly enable the continuation of a journalism career interrupted by systematic authoritarian persecution.

With deep respect for RSF's mission,

**Miraziz Bazarov**

Independent Journalist & Media Founder

#### **Attachments:**

- Complete incident report with evidence (23 pages)
- **UN Special Rapporteurs communication AL UZB 3/2021**
- Court decisions and legal documentation
- International media coverage compilation
- Russian Ministry of Justice response documenting continued threats
- Sample of remaining journalistic work and audience metrics

*I am fully available for immediate telephone consultation or video call to discuss this case and provide any additional verification required for expedited processing.*

пн, 11 авг. 2025 г. в 14:06, RSF Assistance <[assistance2@rsf.org](mailto:assistance2@rsf.org)>:

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#### **9 attachments**

- Termination\_AHRCA\_Miraziz\_Bazarov.pdf**  
89K
- Базарову М - по ФБК 2.0 (Ответ Минюста РФ).pdf**  
208K
- UN Special Rapporteur.pdf**  
124K
- Заявления международных организаций.docx**  
250K
- Report-21-22.pdf**  
285K
- Интернет-травля блогеров.pdf**  
251K

 Пости Канал Базаров и Махалля.docx  
181K

 Тексты речей в суде.docx  
58K

 Публикации в Eurasianet, AsiaTerra и других источниках.docx  
2519K

Miraziz Bazarov <m.bazaroff@gmail.com>  
To: RSF Assistance <assistance2@rsf.org>

19 August 2025 at 18:19

Dear RSF Assistance Team,

Following up on my detailed response of August 11th with comprehensive journalism documentation and attachments.

**Brief application status update:** For full transparency as you review our case, several journalism protection organizations have recently responded:

- **Committee to Protect Journalists:** Standard capacity limitations
- **Free Press Unlimited:** Outside mandate scope
- **IFJ Safety Fund:** Technical delivery issues

**RSF significance:** This reinforces why RSF's specialized journalist assistance program is particularly crucial for our family emergency. Your focus on "resettling exiled and displaced journalists" matches our situation precisely.

**No additional requests:** This is purely informational for context. Our documentation and request remain as submitted.

**Verification availability:** All references and documentation remain immediately available for any additional verification needed.

Thank you for RSF's continued review of this time-critical journalist family emergency.

With professional respect,

**Miraziz Bazarov** Independent Journalist & Media Founder +995 593 621 502

пн, 11 авг. 2025 г. в 14:39, Miraziz Bazarov <m.bazaroff@gmail.com>:

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**RSF Assistance** <assistance2@rsf.org>  
To: Miraziz Bazarov <m.bazaroff@gmail.com>

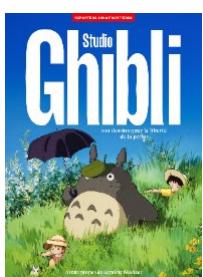
19 August 2025 at 18:26

Dear Sir,

Thank you very much for your message.

Could you please let us know if the CPJ will send you a grant?

Best regards,



**Bureau Assistance**  
**Equipe Assistance / RSF Assistance Team**

assistance2@rsf.org

CS 90247 75083 Paris Cedex 02

**REPORTERS SANS FRONTIÈRES / REPORTERS WITHOUT BORDERS (RSF)**



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**Miraziz Bazarov** <m.bazaroff@gmail.com>  
To: RSF Assistance <assistance2@rsf.org>

19 August 2025 at 20:11

Dear RSF Team,

Thank you for your follow-up question.

Regarding Committee to Protect Journalists (CPJ): They responded with a standard decline citing "limited capacity" and inability to provide assistance in our case. No grant received or expected from CPJ.

Current status: No confirmed funding from any organization at this time, making RSF's support particularly critical for our journalist family emergency.

I immediately notify all organizations if any funding is received to ensure transparency and avoid duplication.

Best regards,  
Miraziz Bazarov

BT, 19 авг. 2025 г. в 18:26, RSF Assistance <[assistance2@rsf.org](mailto:assistance2@rsf.org)>:

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**RSF Assistance** <[assistance2@rsf.org](mailto:assistance2@rsf.org)>  
To: Miraziz Bazarov <[m.bazaroff@gmail.com](mailto:m.bazaroff@gmail.com)>

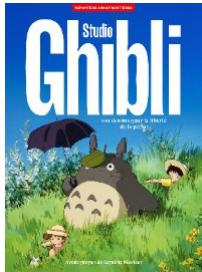
12 September 2025 at 12:11

Dear Sir,

We hope that you're doing well.

Have you received any support from other organisations?

Best regards,



### Bureau Assistance Equipe Assistance / RSF Assistance Team

[assistance2@rsf.org](mailto:assistance2@rsf.org)

CS 90247 75083 Paris Cedex 02

**REPORTERS SANS FRONTIÈRES / REPORTERS WITHOUT BORDERS (RSF)**



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**Miraziz Bazarov** <[m.bazaroff@gmail.com](mailto:m.bazaroff@gmail.com)>  
To: RSF Assistance <[assistance2@rsf.org](mailto:assistance2@rsf.org)>

12 September 2025 at 16:05

Dear RSF Assistance Team,

**To your question:** We have not received confirmed support from other organizations to date.

**Critical update:** On August 27, Georgian border officials arbitrarily refused our re-entry at Sadakhlo using fabricated legal requirements ("work visa" that does not exist in Georgian law). We are now stranded in Armenia with critically depleted resources.

This forced displacement created a **severe medical crisis for my 63-year-old mother, Gulnora Abdunazarova** — a veteran journalist with 24 years experience. Her established medical care in Tbilisi for Type II diabetes and hypertension has been abruptly severed after 11 months of stabilization, placing her at immediate risk.

#### Our urgent requests:

1. **Emergency financial assistance** (€3,000-4,000) to cover survival costs while completing French humanitarian visa pathway
2. **Institutional support for mother's humanitarian visa:** Brief support letter or referral from RSF to your French counterparts, complementing Sakharov Center coordination

**Coordination transparency:** Oleg Yelanchik (Sakharov Institute) indicated our applications were submitted and mentioned checking possibilities with RSF regarding my mother's case. Gurkan Ozturk (ECPMF) also offered assistance. We will immediately notify you of any confirmed third-party support to avoid duplication.

**Attachments:**

- Executive Medical Summary — Abdunazarova (continuity of care disruption)
- Legal Analysis — Georgia border incident (brief overview)
- Gulnora Abdunazarova — French humanitarian visa application summary

I am immediately available for verification calls or additional documentation.

With urgent appreciation for your consideration,

Miraziz Bazarov

Signal/Phone: +374 95 834 804

Email: [m.bazaroff@gmail.com](mailto:m.bazaroff@gmail.com)

Current location: Yerevan, Armenia

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пт, 12 сент. 2025 г. в 12:12, RSF Assistance <[assistance2@rsf.org](mailto:assistance2@rsf.org)>:

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**3 attachments**

 [Legal\\_Analysis\\_Georgia\\_Border\\_Denial\\_v2\\_corrected.pdf](#)  
182K

 [01 Formulaire RUS GULNORA ABDUNAZAROVA.docx](#)  
23K

 [Executive\\_Medical\\_Summary\\_Abdunazarova\\_EN.pdf](#)  
78K

**RSF Assistance** <[assistance2@rsf.org](mailto:assistance2@rsf.org)>  
To: Miraziz Bazarov <[m.bazaroff@gmail.com](mailto:m.bazaroff@gmail.com)>

18 September 2025 at 15:22

Dear Sir,

Thank you very much for providing us with this information. In order for us to study further your request, we will need to gather some additional elements.

Could you send us links to your journalistic and investigative publications? In particular with the media outlets you mentioned ([spot.uz](#), [citizen.uz](#), [kommersant.uz](#), Voices of Tashkent)?

Would you also have links to your publications with Voilà Mahalla Media or were you forced to delete all content?

Finally, have you been conducting any additional journalistic activities in the last years?

Thank you in advance,

Best regards,



**Bureau Assistance**  
**Equipe Assistance / RSF Assistance Team**

[assistance2@rsf.org](mailto:assistance2@rsf.org)

CS 90247 75083 Paris Cedex 02

**REPORTERS SANS FRONTIÈRES / REPORTERS WITHOUT BORDERS (RSF)**



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**Miraziz Bazarov** <[m.bazaroff@gmail.com](mailto:m.bazaroff@gmail.com)>  
To: RSF Assistance <[assistance2@rsf.org](mailto:assistance2@rsf.org)>

18 September 2025 at 21:15

Dear RSF Assistance Team,

Thank you for your follow-up and for the time you are dedicating to my case. I understand the necessity of a thorough verification process and am prepared to provide a comprehensive and detailed overview of my journalistic background, the evolution of my work under duress, and the threats I have faced as a direct result of these activities.

Responding to your specific questions, it is crucial to contextualize my career progression from state-controlled media to independent journalism.

### **1. Early Career in Mainstream Media (2012–2018):**

My initial work was with several established media outlets. However, as is common in Uzbekistan, many publications either did not use individual bylines for staff writers or have since ceased to exist in their original form.

- **Spot.uz:** This outlet only occasionally used bylines for major interviews. I can provide direct links to two such publications. It is important to note that these represent only a part of my contributions, as most of my work was published anonymously per editorial policy.
  - In-depth interview with the CEO of KPMG Uzbekistan (15.10.2018): <https://www.spot.uz/ru/2018/10/15/kpmg/>
  - Interview with economist Arthur Laffer (27.06.2019): <https://www.spot.uz/ru/2019/06/27/laffer/>
- **Kommersant.uz / Voices of Tashkent / Norma.uz:** These projects were active before their closure or complete restructuring. I have managed to retrieve several examples via the Internet Archive, which are compiled in the attached file: **old\_articles\_examples.docx**.
- **Citizen.uz:** This project was a public platform on Facebook during the highly restrictive era of President Islam Karimov and was shut down before advanced web-archiving systems became commonplace. Unfortunately, its archives have not been preserved.

My work in these publications represents the early stage of my career. Subsequently, due to escalating censorship and the impossibility of publishing critical investigative material in official media, I was compelled to shift to independent platforms.

### **2. Independent Investigative Journalism Under Mounting Pressure (2020–2023):**

- **Telegram Channel #bazarov2021 (2020–2021):** This channel was not a personal blog but a micro-media outlet for public-interest journalism. A key example was my **open letter to the IMF and ADB** regarding the misuse of nearly \$1 billion in COVID-19 relief funds. This investigation led to direct retaliation from the State Security Service (SSS), including official summons and a coordinated smear campaign.
  - **Attachment: Telegram\_Journalism\_Portfolio.docx** contains the full texts of 23 selected publications with English commentary explaining their journalistic context and impact. A significant portion of my channel's content was deleted under duress, but extensive archives remain accessible on public Telegram monitoring platforms.
- **Voilà Mahalla Media (2022–2023):** Following a violent physical assault and a politically motivated court sentence in early 2022, I was placed under a **ban on nearly all professional and public activities**. Forced to work clandestinely, my main project became the anonymous leadership of the independent media outlet "Voilà Mahalla." This was a full-fledged platform with over **25,000 subscribers** and **100+ volunteer authors**, focused on corruption and human rights. In May 2023, after the security services identified my role, they conducted a serious investigation to uncover our anonymous network. Under threat of new criminal cases against myself and my editors, I was forced to completely destroy the project.
  - **Attachment: Voila\_Mahalla\_Case\_Documentation\_Report.pdf** provides a detailed report on the project and the circumstances of its destruction. Further examples of its publications are available in my progress reports to the Norwegian Helsinki Committee, which I can provide upon request.

### **3. Activity in Exile (2023–Present): Transformation Under Duress & Systemic Research**

The period from mid-2023 should not be viewed as a pause, but as a direct consequence of persecution. Intensified surveillance after the destruction of "Voilà Mahalla" made any new project, such as "Psy Tashkent," impossible to sustain. Following the formal end of my sentence in July 2024, I was compelled to leave Uzbekistan under "recommendations" from the GUVD and special services. This was followed by the 8-month sabotage of our visa process by the AHRCA organization and culminated in the arbitrary refusal of re-entry into Georgia on August 27, 2025.

In these conditions, I have been forced not to cease, but to transform my work:

- **CAT AGI:** My current project is a civic-tech and data-journalism initiative for the independent monitoring of the **mayoral elections in Tbilisi, Georgia**. It is a direct continuation of my anti-corruption work, adapted to the realities of exile.

- **Systemic Research:** My direct experience with the dysfunction of aid mechanisms has compelled me to begin a separate, long-term research project. This new focus of my journalistic and analytical work is on the systemic failures, malpractice, and lack of accountability within the ecosystem of international emergency grants and NGO assistance for journalists and HRDs. The attached report on the failure of 18+ emergency funds serves as a preliminary, baseline study for this larger investigation.

#### 4. Comprehensive Documentation of Persecution and Systemic Failure

To provide a full context, I am attaching the following key documents:

- **Report-21-22.pdf:** A detailed report on the violent physical assault against me in March 2021, documented by the UN Special Rapporteurs (AL UZB 3/2021). (it was sent in August email)
- **Legal\_Analysis\_Georgia\_Border\_Denial\_v2\_corrected.pdf & Bazarov\_Case\_Georgia\_Impact\_Assessment\_Aug2025.pdf:** Legal and impact analysis of the illegal refusal of entry into Georgia, which destroyed a humanitarian project assisting over 50 refugees.
- **Statements from international organizations.docx & Publications in Eurasianet, AsiaTerra, and other sources.docx:** Collections of statements and media coverage confirming the international recognition of my case. (it was sent in August email)
- **Emergency\_HRD\_Protection\_System\_Failure\_Bazarov\_2025.pdf:** A report detailing the systemic failure of 18+ emergency funds to provide assistance. This document is provided for full transparency to illustrate the critical nature of our situation and the systemic issues that have led to our current crisis.

#### 5. Urgent Humanitarian Request for My Mother, Gulnora Abdunazarova

Finally, I must reiterate a critical humanitarian issue. My mother, **Gulnora Abdunazarova**, a 63-year-old veteran journalist with a 24-year career, is with me here in Yerevan. She is a citizen of Uzbekistan and suffers from severe chronic illnesses (Type II diabetes, hypertension). Her health has critically deteriorated due to the stress of persecution and our current precarious situation.

We are applying for a humanitarian visa to France, with coordination from the Sakharov Center. However, as Oleg Yelanchik from the Center explained, they can only support my wife and me (as Russian citizens). They cannot act as a sponsor for my mother. A direct application for her could take up to 9 months, a timeframe her health may not permit.

I implore RSF, through its channels in France, to consider providing institutional support or a letter of sponsorship for my mother's humanitarian visa application. Her case is not only one of familial persecution but also of a professional journalist whose career and health have been destroyed.

- **Attachment: 01 Formulaire RUS GULNORA ABDUNAZAROVA.docx** (Her application for a humanitarian visa in Russian).

I have dedicated many hours to compiling this comprehensive response, as I believe a thorough and transparent presentation of my journalistic background is crucial for your assessment. After nearly two months of communication with various organizations, my family's situation has become critical. We are stranded in Armenia with dwindling resources. I trust that the detailed information provided is sufficient for a timely and professional decision. Please note that most of the attached documents are in Russian, but I can provide translations if required.

Thank you for your attention to my case and for the vital work your organization does.

Sincerely, Miraziz Bazarov

Чт, 18 сент. 2025 г. в 15:22, RSF Assistance <[assistance2@rsf.org](mailto:assistance2@rsf.org)>:  
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#### 7 attachments

-  **Legal\_Analysis\_Georgia\_Border\_Denial\_v2\_corrected.pdf**  
182K
-  **Emergency\_HRD\_Protection\_System\_Failure\_Bazarov\_2025.pdf**  
138K
-  **Bazarov\_Case\_Georgia\_Impact\_Assessment\_Aug2025.pdf**  
82K
-  **Telegram\_Journalism\_Portfolio.docx**  
18913K

 **01 Formulaire RUS GULNORA ABDUNAZAROVA.docx**

23K

 **old\_articles\_examples.docx**

3554K

 **Voila\_Mahalla\_Case\_Documentation\_Report.pdf**

117K

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**Miraziz Bazarov <m.bazaroff@gmail.com>**  
To: RSF Assistance <assistance2@rsf.org>

26 September 2025 at 03:30

Dear RSF Assistance Team,

Thank you. I need to formally close the loop and ask for a **reasoned outcome by 4 October 2025, 18:00 (Yerevan)**. To avoid further duplication, here is a precise summary of the file and the asks.

**Chronology (with materials provided):**

- **4 Aug:** Initial emergency request (mini-grant €3–4k to cover housing/medication during a short transition).
- **11 Aug:** RSF requested background/threat evidence → **same day** I submitted a comprehensive pack (journalistic record, UN AL UZB 3/2021, legal context; links/archives).
- **19 Aug:** RSF asked about CPJ → I confirmed **no** funding from CPJ or others.
- **12 Sept:** RSF asked again whether any support came from others → I confirmed **none** and reported the **27 Aug** arbitrary refusal of re-entry to Georgia; **continuity of care** for my mother was disrupted. **From this date I requested a separate liaison for my mother's French humanitarian visa.** I attached: **Executive Medical Summary — Abdunazarova** (diabetes type II, hypertension; treatment continuity broken), legal brief, and her visa file summary.
- **18 Sept:** RSF requested links/records again → **same day** I provided a **structured, consolidated response** with links, archives, case documentation, and a **separate visa request block for my mother** (Uzbek citizen, veteran journalist).
- **Since 18 Sept: 8 days** with no substantive reply, mirroring earlier long gaps and repeated RFIs after full responses, while our resources are **insufficient for stable housing and regular medications**.

**Medical factor (clinical, no dramatization):** my mother (63) has **Type II diabetes** and **hypertension**. After **27 Aug** her **continuity of care was interrupted** (no stable treating physician / regular monitoring; regimen fragmented). We currently rely on **short-term refills** and **lack a stable budget** for medication and accommodation. The **Executive Medical Summary** was provided on **12 Sept** and referenced again on **18 Sept**.

**What I respectfully request by 4 Oct 2025, 18:00 (Yerevan):**

**(A) Emergency assistance (mini-grant):** either (i) a **reasoned approval** with amount & payment channel, or (ii) a **reasoned refusal** (mandate/capacity grounds).

**(B) Humanitarian-visa liaison for my mother (separate track):** either (i) a **brief support letter or referral** with a contact & next step, or (ii) a **reasoned refusal** (policy/mandate grounds).

Please also designate a **single case officer (name/email)** to avoid further duplication.

We have invested **significant hours** into repeated clarifications and re-submissions over **nearly two months**. If no clear written outcome is received by the above deadline, I will consider the file **formally declined** on both tracks and proceed independently. For transparency, this message and your reply (or lack thereof) will be logged in my Transparency Log.

I remain available for any **non-duplicative** clarification. If helpful, I can re-attach the full pack as a single PDF; however, all items were already supplied on **11 Aug** and **12/18 Sept**.

Kind regards,

**Miraziz Bazarov**

Yerevan, Armenia • m.bazaroff@gmail.com • +374 95 834 804

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**RSF Assistance <assistance2@rsf.org>**  
To: Miraziz Bazarov <m.bazaroff@gmail.com>

2 October 2025 at 20:11

Dear Sir,

We are deeply sorry for the delay of our answers. We are a very small team dealing with hundreds of requests and do not have the capacity to reply quicker.

We want to assure you that RSF is fully committed to defending freedom of the press and supporting journalists at risk around the world. However, we must also inform you, with great respect, of the limits of our assistance framework.

We would also like to inform you that, unfortunately, we will not be able to provide you with financial support. Due to significant financial constraints, RSF has been forced to tighten its prioritization criteria. As such, we are currently prioritizing individuals who have left their country within the past six months. We understand how difficult and frustrating this decision may be, and we want to express our sincere regret for not being able to offer you financial assistance at this time.

The only thing we could therefore eventually do, if we manage to document your case (which we have not done yet), would be to provide you with a support letter stating your own journalistic activities as well as the threats you are facing because of this reporting work. However, in order for us to do so, we first need to gather sufficient information and then to conduct an investigation to cross check the information you gave us. This investigation also takes several weeks before being completed.

Moreover, such a letter could be provided only for your own visa application. Unfortunately, our mandate excludes us from providing support to journalists' family members. We can only provide support to journalists themselves. Therefore we also could not support your mother's application.

Thank you in advance for your understanding.

Best regards,



## Bureau Assistance Equipe Assistance / RSF Assistance Team

assistance2@rsf.org

CS 90247 75083 Paris Cedex 02

**REPORTERS SANS FRONTIÈRES / REPORTERS WITHOUT BORDERS (RSF)**



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Miraziz Bazarov <m.bazaroff@gmail.com>  
To: RSF Assistance <assistance2@rsf.org>

7 October 2025 at 02:41

**Subject:** Thank you — closing this thread and reverting in a new email with a structured support-letter request

Dear RSF Assistance Team,

Thank you for your reply and for clarifying the current assistance framework. I appreciate the explanation regarding (i) funding prioritization and (ii) the possibility of a support letter limited to the journalist applicant after your internal documentation process.

To keep things efficient and avoid duplication, I will **close this thread** and revert in a new email with a **structured request for a support letter for myself** once I finalize a concise evidence pack (one-page case summary, short CV, and 3–5 dated, verifiable references with URLs/time-stamps).

For the record—purely so we can avoid the same friction in the future—please allow me to politely note a few process points from the last two months:

- **Duplicate RFIs:** I provided a comprehensive documentation pack on **11 Aug**, and again supplied links/archives on **18 Sept**, yet I received repeated requests for items already sent (e.g., CPJ status; links to publications).
- **No single case owner:** No designated point of contact was assigned, which likely led to duplicate questions and long gaps without a status update.
- **Late disclosure of a key criterion:** The funding cut-off (prioritizing those who left within the last six months) was communicated only in the final message, after an extended exchange; surfacing this earlier would have helped us set expectations.
- **Misclassification of my mother's file:** My mother, **Gulnora Abdunazarova**, was assessed as a “family member,” whereas she is a **veteran journalist (24 years)** whose materials were shared in this thread. I will

therefore explore separate avenues that recognize her as a journalist in her own right.

I am grateful for your work supporting journalists at risk. I'll come back **in a fresh thread** with the compact pack for a support letter **for myself**. Regarding my mother's case, I will not persist within this thread and will proceed through channels that can consider her as a journalist.

Please consider this thread closed from my side. Thank you again for your time and consideration.

**Kind regards,**

**Miraziz Bazarov**

Yerevan, Armenia

• m.bazaroff@gmail.com

• +374 95 834 804

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