



THE EUROPEAN ASSOCIATION OF
JEHOVAH'S CHRISTIAN WITNESSES

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From The European Association of Jehovah's Christian Witnesses

Submission to the UN Human Rights Committee

UKRAINE

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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY OF THE SUBMISSION

This submission to the Human Rights Committee on Ukraine highlights violations of the provisions of the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights (“ICCPR”) relating to **questions 8 and 25** of the *List of issues to be taken up in connection with the consideration of the seventh periodic report of Ukraine* (CCPR/C/UKR/Q/7):

8. According to information before the Committee, a series of assaults and attacks against Jehovah's Witnesses remain unpunished. Please indicate the measures taken to investigate and bring to justice the perpetrators: (a) of physical assaults in Kremenchuk, Stryi, Mykulyntsi, Ternopil and Rokytne towns; (b) of the desecration to houses of worship of Jehovah's Witnesses in 2008 and 2009, including in Yenakievo and Vuhlehirsk towns, and other vandalism attacks committed from October 2010 to December 2011 (c) of the interference in the worship activities of Jehovah's Witnesses in Voznesensk by the neo-fascist organization “Skhoron ezh Sloven” (Unification of Slavs), as well as of the physical attacks against Jehovah's Witnesses by two orthodox priests in June 2008 and April 2009.

25. Please comment on reports that the Religious Center of Jehovah's Witnesses faced an illegal seizure of a portion of its property and that authorities have consistently failed to allocate land to Crimean Tatars for the construction of a Soborna (Assembly) Mosque, and indicate any measures taken by the State party to remedy the situation.

As described below, serious issues of concern persist, namely the lack of effective investigations and the refusal by the authorities to prosecute acts of religious hatred even in cases where the perpetrators have been identified. This inaction on the part of law enforcement agencies has resulted in an increase of assaults against individuals and of acts of vandalism and arson on Kingdom Halls of Jehovah's Witnesses (places of worship). Jehovah's Witnesses in Ukraine and as a worldwide organization respectfully request the government of Ukraine to:

- (1) Ensure that law enforcement authorities provide appropriate protection against assaults on Jehovah's Witnesses in Ukraine;
- (2) Ensure that law enforcement authorities thoroughly investigate crimes against Jehovah's Witnesses or their Kingdom Halls and identify these as crimes of religious hatred;
- (3) Ensure that the law enforcement authorities, prosecutors, and judicial authorities refrain from discriminating against Jehovah Witnesses who are victims of criminal acts by hiding investigation results and making procedural decisions that protect the perpetrators instead of the victims;
- (4) Ensure that all who engage in acts of violence against members of the congregations of Jehovah's Witnesses be properly investigated and criminal cases be instituted to punish perpetrators;
- (5) Provide adequate protection for the Kingdom Halls and prosecute all criminals who vandalize these houses of worship; and
- (6) Abide by their commitment to uphold the fundamental freedoms guaranteed by the Constitution of Ukraine, the European Convention on Human Rights, and the ICCPR for all citizens, including Jehovah's Witnesses.

I. Introduction

1. The European Association of Jehovah's Christian Witnesses is a charity registered in the UK. It is assisting the adherents of the faith of Jehovah's Witnesses in various areas of the world.
2. Jehovah's Witnesses have been active in Ukraine since at least the early 1920's. Witnesses suffered much oppression while Ukraine was under Nazi and Soviet domination. For example, on 8 April 1951, more than 6,140 Witnesses were exiled from western Ukraine to Siberia. In 1965, an amnesty released them from exile.
3. Jehovah's Witnesses are pleased to acknowledge that the government of Ukraine does not itself oppose the activity of Jehovah's Witnesses.
4. Some government agencies prove very helpful. For example, the Department for Religions and Nationalities under the Ministry of Culture of Ukraine ("the Department") regularly approves the requests of the Religious Center of Jehovah's Witnesses in Ukraine for visas and permits allowing foreigners to carry on religious activities in Ukraine. Also, the various State Regional Administration Departments for Internal Policy register the charters submitted by the local religious communities of Jehovah's Witnesses.
5. There is however a serious problem with law enforcement agencies. Over the past several years, they have failed to properly and effectively investigate criminal acts against Jehovah's Witnesses and their houses of worship. As a result, the perpetrators of such criminal acts have remained unpunished and have been emboldened to carry out further acts of violence.
6. This submission provides answers to questions 8a, 8b, 8c and 25 of the List of issues to be taken up in connection with the consideration of the seventh periodic report of Ukraine (CCPR/C/UKR/Q/7). The submission includes information from the annexed document "Attacks of Arson and Vandalism on Houses of Worship" prepared by the Office of General Counsel for Jehovah's Witnesses and provided to the U.S. Helsinki Commission and Ukraine's Foreign Minister. (**Annex 1**)

II. The right to an effective remedy against crimes of religious hatred, the right to freedom of religion and to non-discrimination (arts. 2, 20, 26 and 27)

A. Answers to questions 8 (a), 8 (b), & 8 (c).

QUESTION 8 (a) Please indicate the measures taken to investigate and bring to justice the perpetrators of physical assaults in Kremenchuk, Stryi, Mykulyntsi, Ternopil and Rokytno towns.

Town of Kremenchuk

7. On 4 March 2008 Mr. Lytvynenko assaulted two women who are Jehovah's Witnesses and broke the nose of one of them. Initially, the attacker was accused of committing a crime on the basis of religious hatred. However, at the court hearing, the prosecutor changed

the accusation to the lesser charge of hooliganism. As a result, Mr. Lytvynenko was given the minimum punishment of a 1 year restraint of liberty¹. Since this was a suspended sentence, he did not have to serve the sentence and therefore was never really punished for his crime. The Court of Appeal denied the victims' appeal. (Court file No. 1-12/09)

8. On 19 December 2006 Mr. Dmytro Buzhyn assaulted one of Jehovah's Witnesses so aggressively that the victim had to be hospitalized for several weeks. The police investigation was totally ineffective since, even though his identity was known to the police, Mr. Buzhyn was never charged or prosecuted for this crime. (Criminal case No. 07815008). (See **Annex 4**.)
9. On 23 December 2007 Mr. Kolbe assaulted two young men who are Jehovah's Witnesses, punching and kicking them. The young men were returning from attending a religious service at the Kingdom Hall. Law enforcement agencies refused to open a criminal investigation, so he was never charged or prosecuted.

Town of Stryi, Lviv Region

10. On 6 October 2007 Mr. Roik assaulted one of Jehovah's Witnesses in front of his wife and 2-year-old daughter. The victim was rendered unconscious on the ground and was hospitalized several days because of his injuries. Two other Witness men were assaulted by Mr. Roik on the same day. Since Mr. Roik was only charged with hooliganism instead of having committed crimes on the basis of religious hatred, he was able to take advantage of a general amnesty and totally escaped punishment. (Criminal case No. 170-0091)

Town of Mykulyntsi, Ternopil Region

11. On 12 October 2008 Mr. Hromyk, armed with a club, assaulted two of Jehovah's Witnesses. Later, on 26 October 2008, he entered the local Kingdom Hall, interrupted the religious service that was in progress, and threatened to kill any Witness who would try to approach him. Local police refused to investigate these crimes, so Mr. Hromyk was never brought to justice.

Village of Rokytno, Rivne Region

12. On 17 April 2010 Mr. Korylovets, who had previously attacked Jehovah's Witnesses, assaulted two Witness women, pushing and kicking them. Even though his identity was known to the local police, Mr. Korylovets was never brought to justice.

QUESTION 8 (b) Please indicate the measures taken to investigate and bring to justice the perpetrators of the desecration to houses of worship of Jehovah's Witnesses in 2008 and 2009, including in Yenakievo and Vuhlehirsk towns, and other vandalism attacks committed from October 2010 to December 2011.

13. The Witnesses in Ukraine are experiencing an increasing number of attacks on their houses of worship (Kingdom Hall). Over the past few years, attacks against their Kingdom

¹ Restraint of liberty involves holding a person in an open penitentiary institution without isolation from society.

Halls have escalated from vandalism to arson, particularly in the Donetsk region. (See **Annex 2**)

14. Due to inaction, inadequate investigation, improper classification, and lack of prosecution on the part of law enforcement officials, the situation is worsening. The authorities are allowing these criminals to act with impunity, emboldening them to further and more severe attacks.
15. During **2008** there were 18 recorded acts of desecration to Kingdom Halls in various regions. In all cases, law enforcement officials made no serious effort to find and punish the perpetrators. In three cases (Nos. 9, 10 & 11) the identity of the perpetrators was known and in one case (no. 5) the perpetrator even turned himself in to the police and confessed his crime, but still was not charged and punished. (See **Annex 2**, 2008, Items 1 – 18) During **2009** there were 24 recorded acts of desecration to Kingdom Halls in various regions. In at least 6 cases (Nos. 3, 6, 7, 9, 13 & 17) the identity of the perpetrators was known. Nevertheless, these individuals were never charged and law enforcement officials made no serious effort to find any of the other perpetrators and charge them. (For photos see **Annex 1**, pages 14 & 15; see also **Annex 2**, 2009, Items 1 – 24)
16. During **2010** there were 5 incidents of desecration to Kingdom Halls and no one was ever charged or prosecuted. (See **Annex 2**, 2010, Items 1 – 5.) During **2011** there were 15 such incidents. In at least 6 cases (Nos. 1, 2, 8, 9, 11 & 14) the identity of the perpetrators was known. Yet, law enforcement officials failed to institute criminal proceedings for any of the incidents. Only in one incident, (No. 8) an administrative fine equivalent to 8 USD was imposed on the perpetrator. (See **Annex 2**, 2011, Items 1 – 15.)

QUESTION 8 (c) Please indicate the measures taken to investigate and bring to justice the perpetrators of the interference in the worship activities of Jehovah's Witnesses in Voznesensk by the neo-fascist organization "Skhoron ezh Sloven" (Unification of Slavs), as well as of the physical attacks against Jehovah's Witnesses by two orthodox priests in June 2008 and April 2009.

Town of Voznesensk

17. On 24 July 2008 about 20 men, led by Volodymyr Holiakov, described as 'High Priest of all Slavs in the position of Magus Volodymyr Bohumil II' forcefully entered the Kingdom Hall of Jehovah's Witnesses in Voznesensk and interrupted the religious service that was in progress. For approximately 20 minutes the 38 worshippers present, including women and young children, were subjected to abusive and obscene language, insults to their religious beliefs, degrading treatment, threats, intimidation and humiliating slanderous accusations. The incident was filmed by the attackers and posted on the internet sites www.perun-spb.narod.ru and www.youtube.com. The attackers are clearly identifiable and well-known to local police.
18. On 11 December 2008, nearly 5 months after the attack, a criminal case was finally commenced (No. 08110420). From the time the criminal case was instituted, no further investigations were carried out for a month. The criminal case was thereafter transferred from one investigator to another with little progress being made.

19. After a delay of some 16 months following the attack, charges were finally laid against two individuals, Holiakov and Bondarenko. However, by this time the accused had fled to Russia. The charges were therefore ineffective and meaningless.
20. During the investigation of this criminal case, the State commissioned two needless expert studies to determine whether or not Jehovah's Witnesses were conducting a religious meeting at the time of the attack. This was done in spite of the evidence seen on the video taken by the attackers clearly showing a congregation of Jehovah's Witnesses meeting together for worship.
21. During the investigation of this criminal case, victims were refused the classification as victims, essential evidence was omitted from the case file, victims were denied access to case material, and decisions made by the investigators were not served on the victims.
22. The investigation was suspended in 2011 allegedly because Bondarenko could not be located even though he was seen on several occasions during that time in Voznesensk.
23. Over the course of the 35 months after the date of the attack, the victims made repeated requests to a number of State bodies for the crimes carried out by the perpetrators to be investigated and prosecuted. The victims had to file numerous petitions to force the investigators to abide by the law. On numerous occasions, the actions of the investigators were found to be unlawful and unjustified. Orders from the courts to proceed according to the law were ignored by the investigators and, as a result, not one of the attackers has ever been brought to justice for these criminal acts.

Attacks by Orthodox Priests in June 2008 and April 2009

24. On 21 June 2008 Mr. Kapsamun, an Orthodox priest from the village of Kotlovyna, Odesa Region, assaulted one of Jehovah's Witnesses in the street, breaking his jaw. The victim was hospitalized and needed to wear a brace in his mouth for over a month in order to be able to eat. About 15 minutes later the priest also assaulted another Witness man. A criminal case for physical assault was started (No. 31200800094). However, it was suspended on several occasions. The last suspension was in April 2011 in connection with the need of a forensic medical examination. The medical expert stated in his October 2012 report that an expertise could not be conducted due to the investigator's failure to provide the required medical documents. Consequently, the Orthodox priest has never been prosecuted for his crime.
25. On 20 April 2009 Mr. Lysenko, an Orthodox priest from the village of Novi Mlyn, Chernihiv Region, physically assaulted two women who are Jehovah's Witnesses. Using a club, he beat the women on the head and lower back. One of the women has been disabled since childhood due to severe eye problems. The blows to the head were particularly painful for her. After a delay of two years, a criminal case for hooliganism was finally started (No. 03/05640) by the Borzna District Police Investigator. However, it was subsequently closed for the alleged absence of signs of hooliganism in the actions of the priest. The trial court and the appellate court rejected the victims' complaints. A cassation appeal is currently pending before the Supreme Specialized Court of Ukraine. Until now, the Orthodox priest remains unpunished.

B. Additional information about other crimes of religious hatred and the continuing inaction of law enforcement officials and the ineffectiveness of their investigations.

Physical assaults against Jehovah's Witnesses

26. From 2008 to the present there were a total of 49 separate incidents of physical assaults that were reported to the national headquarters of Jehovah's Witnesses in Ukraine. This represents only a portion of such assaults on Jehovah's Witnesses, since many incidents were not reported.
27. Several of these assaults were carried out by Orthodox priests. The priests assaulted minors, elderly women and others, sometimes with clubs, injuring individuals, breaking bones, and destroying property. Some victims had to be hospitalized. (See **Annex 3**, 2008 – Items 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 8; 2009 – Items 2, 3, 4, 6; 2011 – Item 5; 2012 – Items 5, 6, 10; 2013 – Item 1.) In all these cases, the priests were never charged nor punished for their crimes.

Desecration to Kingdom Halls of Jehovah's Witnesses in 2012 and 2013

28. As a result of the inaction of law enforcement officials, vandalism and arson of Kingdom Halls increased during 2012 and 2013. In 2012 there were 49 reported incidents of vandalism and arson and for the first five months in 2013, 22 such incidents were reported. In all cases, perpetrators have neither been charged nor punished.
29. Two Kingdom Halls were totally destroyed by arson. (See photos at **Annex 1**, pages 8, 9. See also **Annex 2**, 2012, Items nos. 39 & 40.) In other cases, Kingdom Halls were damaged by arson. (See photos at **Annex 1**, pages 6, 7, 10, 11 & 12. See also **Annex 2**, 2012, Items nos. 9, 24, 27, 42 & 43; 2013, Item 2.)
30. Kingdom Halls were also desecrated with offensive graffiti on numerous occasions.

III. Freedom of religion and belief, freedom of expression and association, right of peaceful assembly (arts. 2, 18, 19, 21 and 22)

A. Answer to question 25.

31. The Religious Center of Jehovah's Witnesses (the Center) in Ukraine has been battling the illegal seizure of a portion of its property since 2007.
32. The land grab scam involved the illegal sale of the property of the Center to a third party, the Sports Development Center (SDC) without the knowledge of the legitimate owners. The sale was then validated by decisions of the courts.

The Supreme Court of Ukraine ends the illegal attempt to seize Religious Center property

33. On 29 December 2011, the Supreme Economic Court ruled that the sale to SDC of the property belonging to the Center was illegal.

- On 3 April 2012 the Supreme Economic Court rejected SDC's cassation appeal. This confirmed the illegal nature of the sale of property rightfully belonging to the Center.
 - Following this decision, on 10 July 2012 the Lviv Economic Court of Appeal annulled the unlawful decision of the local court that had recognized SDC as the owner of a portion of the Center's property.
 - On 26 September 2012, the Supreme Court of Ukraine rejected the appeal filed by SDC.
34. Jehovah's Witnesses in Ukraine are grateful for this positive turn of events. If the scam had succeeded, the Witnesses would have been deprived of their administrative building and a large portion of their property, crippling activities at their national headquarters and their ability to support religious activities for more than 150,000 citizens of Ukraine. This finally settled the unrelenting land grab scam (known as a "raider attack"), which the Witnesses considered an attack on their freedom of worship.

IV. Conclusions and Recommendations

35. Jehovah's Witnesses in Ukraine and worldwide respectfully request the government of Ukraine to:
- (1) Ensure that law enforcement authorities provide appropriate protection against the physical assaults on Jehovah's Witnesses in the Ukraine;
 - (2) Ensure that law enforcement authorities thoroughly investigate reported crimes and acknowledge the xenophobic character of these offenses;
 - (3) Ensure that the law enforcement authorities, prosecutors, and judicial authorities refrain from hiding investigation results and from making procedural decisions which result in discrimination against victims who are Jehovah's Witnesses;
 - (4) Ensure that all who engage in acts of violence against Jehovah's Witnesses be promptly and effectively investigated and criminal cases be instituted to punish perpetrators;
 - (5) Provide adequate protection for the Kingdom Halls and prosecute all criminals who desecrate these houses of worship; and
 - (6) Abide by their commitment to uphold the fundamental freedoms guaranteed by the Constitution of Ukraine, the European Convention on Human Rights, and the ICCPR for all citizens, including Jehovah's Witnesses.

Annex 1

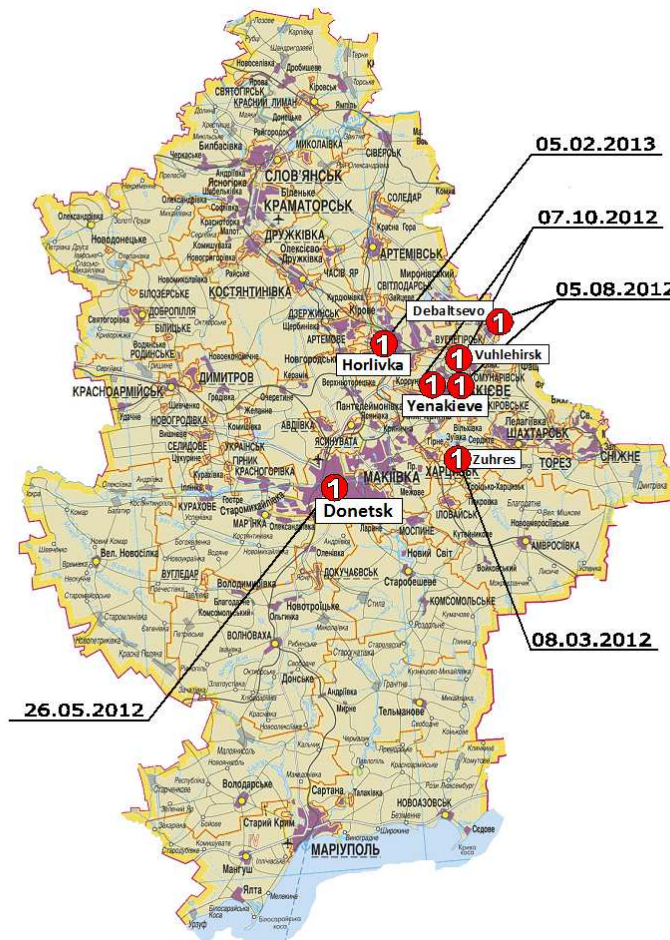
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From The European Association of Jehovah's Christian Witnesses

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ATTACKS OF ARSON AND VANDALISM ON HOUSES OF WORSHIP



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ATTACKS OF ARSON AND VANDALISM ON HOUSES OF WORSHIP

SUMMARY

Jehovah's Witnesses number more than 150,000 in Ukraine and have been active there for over a century. Despite the solid foundation as a recognized religion, Jehovah's Witnesses have experienced a number of troubling and serious problems as they go about their worship in Ukraine.

The Witnesses in Ukraine are experiencing an increasing number of attacks on their houses of worship. Over the past few years, attacks against their houses of worship have escalated from vandalism to arson, particularly in the Donetsk region. In the pages following are details of some of the more recent attacks on these houses of worship. Please note, too, that other minority religions have also suffered from the intolerance manifest by these acts of desecration and destruction.

By inaction, inadequate investigation, improper classification, and lack of prosecution, the situation is worsening. The authorities are allowing the criminals to act with impunity, emboldening further and more severe attacks.

Neo-fascists Groups

Since 2008, authorities have known of the neo-fascist group "Skhoron ezh Sloven" in the Mykolaiv Region. Its members have committed a number of crimes against Witnesses in 2008 and 2013. Authorities have only reluctantly investigated the crimes, and have not brought criminal charges against anyone. The organization continues to propagate its message of hate.

In the town of Vuhlehirsk, Donetsk Region, a local neo-fascist group has repeatedly desecrated the Witnesses' houses of worship since 2009. Although authorities know most members of this group, they have taken no action against those responsible for the crimes.

- Jehovah's Witnesses first registered as a religion in Ukraine on February 28, 1991, and re-registered on September 27, 2006.
- Witnesses built their first Kingdom Hall (house of worship) in Ukraine in 1932, and have 645 of these houses of worship in Ukraine.
- In 2012 and 2013, the Witnesses experienced 69 acts of vandalism against their houses of worship.
- In the same period, there were 20 physical assaults against the Witnesses.
- Law enforcement authorities classify these attacks as hooliganism or property crime—not recognizing they are actually hate crimes.
- In a number of cases, authorities have identified the ones responsible but have not brought them to justice.





Kingdom Hall Arsons

2012-2013

Zuhres, Kingdom Hall at 1 Cherniakhovskiy St.



Number of the proceedings from the Unified Register of Pre-trial Investigations has not been provided

First arson

On **March 7 and 8, 2012**, an unidentified perpetrator breached the security fence protecting the Kingdom Hall of Jehovah's Witnesses and committed an act of arson. In the process, the watchman noticed and was able to minimize the amount of damage caused by the arson.

Police officers never properly inspected the crime scene, resulting in a loss of evidence. For example, the criminal's footprints were found in the snow but were not retained for evidence.

Official investigation of this crime did not start until January 2013 and only one investigative action has been conducted in the last four months. The initial crime report and other important documents were removed as case material.

The Khartsysk Town Police Station, who conducted the investigation, refused to initiate criminal proceedings. The authorities referred to the crime as insignificant and said that the damaged building was not a religious one.

The Khartsysk Town Court's procedural decisions not to conduct a criminal investigation have not been provided to the victims.

This crime remains unsolved.

DONETSK. Kingdom Hall at 121 Engels St.



Second arson

On **May 25 and 26, 2012**, the exterior of the Kingdom Hall of Jehovah's Witnesses was set on fire with a highly flammable liquid.

Although the Kuibyshev District Police Station (Donetsk) was immediately informed by an eyewitness concerning the arson, but the authorities did not promptly conduct an investigation or try to identify the criminal.

In fact, the authorities conducted a trivial examination of the property. No forensic experts were involved, nor were examinations of the property ordered. Thus, evidence left by the perpetrator was lost.

The authorities waited eighteen days before starting criminal proceedings, and then suspended them without cause. The authorities did not provide an explanation for either the delay or suspension of criminal proceedings. Just recently, a number of forensic expert examinations were ordered.

Instructions from the prosecutor and the investigation department of the Regional Police Office regarding this case have been ignored. The crime is still unsolved.

DEBALTSEVE. Kingdom Hall at 25 Radianska St.



Third arson

On August 4 and 5, 2012, two Kingdom Halls of Jehovah's Witnesses, 27 km apart, were set on fire.

The first Kingdom Hall, located only 30 meters from the Debaltseve Town Police Station, was the first building damaged in a series of arsons.

A flammable liquid was used to set the building on fire and the building was completely destroyed. A woman on security duty inside narrowly escaped death.

Although the town police officers immediately responded to the crime report, the inspection of the site was conducted superficially. The authorities did not involve a forensics expert.

Criminal proceedings were only initiated with regard to Article 194(2) of the Criminal Code of Ukraine. The crime investigation plan did not even consider that local extremist organization members committed this crime.

Civil claimant motions dated August 27, 2012, have not been considered. The victims were reassured by the Yenakieve Town Police executives that this crime would be solved and the perpetrators would be detained; however, the investigations have been flawed.

The Prosecutor's directives concerning this case have not been fulfilled and on November 19, 2012, the proceedings were suspended.

Yenakieve. Kingdom Hall at 64 Tolbuhina St.



Fourth arson

This Kingdom Hall was set on fire one hour after the arson of the Debaltseve house of worship, on **August 4 and 5, 2012**. As with the other arson, a flammable mixture was used, and the person on security duty inside narrowly escaped death. This same building was vandalized in 2009.

The Yenakieve Town Police officers failed to adequately respond to the crime report, arriving 3 hours after the report was made to the authorities. Investigator A.R. Hasanov refused to accept the crime report; fingerprints and the materials used to start the fire were not collected or photographed. Moreover, the Town Police Officer on-duty stated that the fire was caused by a short-circuit.

Five days after the arson, the Police Detective A.A. Symonovych informed us that according to the actual investigative data, M.I. Zhdanov, R.V. Zvyntsev, and other residents of Vuhlehirsk were involved in this crime.

On both October 11 and 19, 2012, the chief of the Yenakieve Town Police Station, Town Prosecutor, and Chief of the Criminal Investigative Department, had informed the victims that the crime had in fact been solved and that 10 days later the offenders would be detained. Yet on November 16, 2012, Investigator R.A. Hasanov suspended the investigation of the case, due to the claimed impossibility of identifying the perpetrators.

Yenakieve. Kingdom Hall at 24a R. Luxemburg St.



Fifth arson

This arson was the first in a series of three attacks that occurred on **October 6 and 7, 2012**, in Yenakieve and Vuhlehirsk.

As in previous cases, the crime scene inspection was conducted superficially and negligently. For example, vestiges of torches, plastic cans, and lids from glass jars were not collected from the crime scene. When these items were collected during the second inspection of the site, a criminologist was not involved and no pictures were taken.

The same day Criminal Investigator D.I. Kuchynskyi informed us that M.I. Zhdanov had been involved in the desecration of Kingdom Halls in 2009.

The homes of Messrs. Zvintsev, Zhdanov, and other members of a local extremist group were searched. In Mr. Zhdanov's home a weapon and 4 light bulbs, with a flammable substance, were found in the doghouse. Weapons were also found in the homes of the other group members as well as literature promoting ethnic and religious hatred. Interrogations of the suspects were superficial and incomplete.

On November 16, 2012, the Investigator R.A. Hasanov suspended the investigation of this case. This crime remains unsolved.

Criminal case No. 36-12-03-1880

Vuhlehirsk. Kingdom Hall at 1 Krasnoshapky St.



Criminal case No. 36-12-03-1880

Sixth arson

This house of worship was also subject to an attempted arson the night of **October 6 and 7, 2012**.

During the crime scene inspection the same errors were made as in Yenakieve, and Investigator N.V. Stepanets did not involve a criminologist. Details were ignored; for example, although perpetrators left footprints the shoe impression was not measured or copied.

It is suspected that M.I. Zhdanov's group is responsible for the arson. Implicated in the case is former police and KGB officer Yu.V. Dyachenko, a member of Zhdanov's extremist group, and Oleksandr Hereha, a resident of Vuhlehirsk and a relative of O.M. Trush, who is a Yenakieve Town Police executive. (The Chief of the Yenakieve Town Police Investigation Department further indicated that Mr. Zhdanov is the son of a former Yenakieve Town Police investigator.) Police have not interrogated all members of Mr. Zhdanov's group, including O. Hereha, M. Petrunin, A. Krenichnyi and V. Pliauskas.

Yenakieve Town Police executives stated that it was inconvenient for them to conduct an investigation against children of both former and current police officers. The investigation of this criminal case has been assigned to the youngest and least experienced investigators.

Investigator Hasanov suspended the investigation on November 16, 2012.

HORLIVKA. Kingdom Hall at 4 Hertsena St.



Criminal proceedings No. 12013051030000751

Seventh arson

Arson of this house of worship, located in the town center, occurred the night of **February 5, 2013**.

As a result of the prompt response of the firemen, the fire was quickly contained and extinguished.

The inspection of the crime scene was entirely superficial, a criminologist was not involved and objects of the crime scene were not collected. For example, in the western part of the religious building shoe prints were found on the fence, flower-bed and concrete path but not collected as evidence.

Criminal proceedings were closed on February 11, 2013. Copies of this decision were never provided to the victims. Motions from the victims continue to be ignored.

On February 13, 2013, the Town Police investigation Chief recognized that the police officer's actions were inadequate and directed a second inspection of the site, which was not done until March 22, 2013.

Vandalism of Houses of Worship 2009

VUHLEHIRSK. Kingdom Hall at 1 Krasnoshapky St.



First attack

The attack of **August 29 and 30, 2009**, marked the beginning of acts of religious hatred against Jehovah's Witnesses.

From the beginning, Yenakieve Town Police officers acted negligently and slowly in their investigation, leading to the loss of crucial evidence. For example, neighborhood Police Officer **O.M. Trush**, superficially inspected the scene. (In October 2012 V.V. Shtanchenko, Chief of the Yenakieve Town Police Station, informed us that O.M. Trush is a relative of O. Hereha, a member of a local extremist group.) A criminologist was not involved, photographs of the incident were not taken, and the inspection was concluded within 20 minutes.

After four months, criminal proceedings were instituted but only for hooliganism, and the proceedings were then suspended.

At the time of the incident two persons were identified as the ones involved, but they were not interrogated until March 2010. The suspect's alibis were not established or checked and the Prosecutor's directives were repeatedly ignored. No investigations concerning this case have been conducted in the last two years. The crime remains unsolved.

Criminal Case No. 30-50915 instituted on December 30, 2009
under Article 296 of the CC of Ukraine (Hooliganism)

YENAKIEVE. Kingdom Hall Witnesses at 64 Tolbuhina St.



Criminal case No. 30-50916
under Article 296 of the CC of Ukraine (Hooliganism)

Second attack

On **September 5 and 6, 2009**, this house of worship was desecrated.

The Yenakieve Town Police Station failed to act effectively, not inspecting the crime scene until the next day, not involving a criminologist, and not collecting evidence at the scene.

After four months, police instituted criminal proceedings, but pursued the crime investigation superficially. For example, the interrogation record of one suspect, A.S. Chernousenko, consisted of only 13 lines of text. The investigation plan did not even indicate that the crime could have been committed by a local extremist group.

No investigations concerning this case have been conducted in the last two years. The crime remains unsolved.

Annex 2

Submission to the UN Human Rights Committee

UKRAINE

(108th Session of the Human Rights Committee, 8-26 July 2013)

From The European Association of Jehovah's Christian Witnesses

Annex 2

Chronology of Kingdom Hall Desecration

2008

No.	Town/City	Event	Result of investigation
1	Prypiat, Poltava Region	16 January 2008: Unidentified person/s, fired a pneumatic gun shattering a window of the Kingdom Hall located at 21 Vyzvolenia St.	No proceedings were instituted.
2	Prypiat, Poltava Region	20 January 2008: Unidentified person/s fired a pneumatic gun shattering a window of the Kingdom Hall located at 21 Vyzvolenia St.	No proceedings were instituted.
3	Prypiat, Poltava Region	22 January 2008: Unidentified person/s wrote in large letters using red paint "Away!" on a wall of the Kingdom Hall located at 21 Vyzvolenia St.	No proceedings were instituted.
4	Prypiat, Poltava Region	26 January 2008: Unidentified person/s fired a pneumatic gun shattering a window of the Kingdom Hall located at 21 Vyzvolenia St.	No proceedings were instituted.
5	Ordzhonikidze, Dnipropetrovsk Region	26 January 2008: I. Kostenko broke windows and desecrated the facade of the Kingdom Hall located at 2 Partyzanska St.	The perpetrator surrendered to the police. Police refused to institute criminal proceedings.
6	Scholkino, Autonomous Rep. of Crimea	11 March 2008: Unidentified person/s broke windows and desecrated the facade of the Kingdom Hall located at 35a Scholkina St.	No proceedings were instituted.
7	Chornomorsk, Autonomous Rep. of Crimea	5 May 2008: Unidentified person/s desecrated the Kingdom Hall located at 7 Medychna St. with offensive messages.	No proceedings were instituted.
8	Mykolaiv	7 May 2008: Unidentified person/s set on fire the Kingdom Hall located at 55/7 Zhovtneva St. The fire was put out by the Fire Department.	The police did not come to the crime scene and refused to institute proceedings.
9	Shcholkino, Autonomous Rep. of Crimea	8 June 2008: S. Katko, S. Kartashov and A. Mahov desecrated the facade of the Kingdom Hall.	No proceedings were instituted.
10	Hvardiyskiy, Autonomous Rep. of Crimea	3 July 2008: Ye.S. Kremynskiy desecrated the facade of the Kingdom Hall located at 114 Haharina St.	No proceedings were instituted.
11	Hvardiyskiy, Autonomous Rep. of Crimea	4 July 2008: Ye.S. Kremynskiy again desecrated the facade of the Kingdom Hall at 114 Haharina St.	No proceedings were instituted
12	Hadiach, Poltava Region	25 August 2008: Unidentified person/s desecrated the facade of Kingdom Hall located at 6 Kondratenko St.	No proceedings were instituted.
13	Ordzhonikidze, Dnipropetrovsk Region	28 September 2008: Unidentified person/s desecrated the facade and roof of the Kingdom Hall located at 14 Chkalova St. A dead hen was also thrown onto the property.	No proceedings were instituted.

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Chronology of Kingdom Hall Desecration

No.	Town/City	Event	Results of investigation
14	Ordzhonikidze, Dnipropetrovsk Region	14 October 2008: Unidentified person/s broke windows and desecrated the facade of the Kingdom Hall located 14 Chkalova St.	No proceedings were instituted.
15	Nova Odesa, Mykolaiv Region	7/8 June 2008: During the night unidentified person/s broke windows of the Kingdom Hall of Jehovah's Witnesses located at 16 Zhovtneva St.	Proceedings were instituted but nobody was ever charged.
16	Bohorodchany, Ivano-Frankivsk Region	28 September 2008: R. Slyvka, O. Latyshevskiy and V. Dunets desecrated the facade and the sign "Kingdom Hall of Jehovah's Witnesses" at 6c Petrasha St.	No proceedings were instituted.
17	Kharkiv	7 November 2008: Unidentified person/s broke a window of the Kingdom Hall located at 55 Odeska St.	No proceedings were instituted.
18	Kremenchuk, Poltava Region	19 December 2008: Unidentified person/s wrote in large letters "I kill for SxE" on the Kingdom Hall located at 54 Butyrin St.	No proceedings were instituted.

2009

No.	Town/City	Event	Result of investigation
1	Kremenchuk, Poltava Region	8 February 2009: Two unidentified persons desecrated the façade of the Kingdom Hall located at 54 Butyrin St.	The perpetrators were never charged criminally. They only had to pay an administrative fine (approx. 8 USD).
2	Kryvyi Rih, Dnipropetrovsk Region	22 February 2009: Unidentified person/s wrote in large letters "Cross against the Devil!" on the Kingdom Hall located at 10 Alushtinska St.	No proceedings were instituted.
3	Kryvyi Rih, Dnipropetrovsk Region	23 February 2009: Two teenagers desecrated the facade of the Kingdom Hall located at 10 Alushtinska St.	No proceedings were instituted.
4	Kremenchuk, Poltava Region	23 February 2009: Unidentified person/s set fire to the Kingdom Hall located at 54 Butyrin St. while people were inside the building. Using fire extinguishers from inside the building, they were able to put out the fire.	No proceedings were instituted.
5	Kirovohrad	23 February 2009: Unidentified person/s using red paint desecrated the facade of the Kingdom Hall located at 74 Bychkivska St.	No proceedings were instituted.
6	Kryvyi Rih, Dnipropetrovsk Region	4 March 2009: Six young individuals desecrated the facade of the Kingdom Hall located at 10 Alushtinska St.	No proceedings were instituted.
7	Kharkiv	4 March 2009: Five teenagers desecrated the facade of the Kingdom Hall at 28 Shyshkivska St.	No proceedings were instituted.

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Chronology of Kingdom Hall Desecration

No.	Town/City	Event	Result of investigation
8	Zbarazh, Ternopil Region	21 March 2009: Unidentified persons broke a window of the Kingdom Hall located at 4 Chekhov St.	No proceedings were instituted.
9	Kryvyi Rih, Dnipropetrovsk Region	29 March 2009: Two young men broke a window and desecrated the facade of the Kingdom Hall located at 10 Alushtinska St.	No proceedings were instituted.
10	Amvrosiivka, Donetsk Region	9 April 2009: Unidentified persons desecrated the facade of the Kingdom Hall located at 22 Sorok Rokiv Zhovtnia St.	No proceedings were instituted.
11	Yenakieve, Donetsk Region	15/16 April 2009: During the night unidentified persons desecrated the facade of the Kingdom Hall located at 2 Nevska St.	No proceedings were instituted.
12	Yenakieve, Donetsk Region	16/17 April 2009: During the night unidentified persons desecrated the facade of the Kingdom Hall located at 2 Nevska St.	No proceedings were instituted.
13	Yenakieve, Donetsk Region	18/19 April 2009: During the night Ye.M. Danchenko and I.O. Bramlei broke windows of the Kingdom Hall located at 2 Nevska St.	No proceedings were instituted.
14	Yenakieve, Donetsk Region	24 April 2009: Unidentified person/s broke the window of the Kingdom Hall located at 2 Nevska St.	No proceedings were instituted.
15	Yenakieve, Donetsk Region	18 May 2009: Unidentified person/s broke windows and desecrated the walls of the Kingdom Hall located at 20 Torhova St.	No proceedings were instituted.
16	Yenakieve, Donetsk Region	4/5 June 2009: During the night unidentified person/s desecrated the facade and the sign 'Kingdom Hall of Jehovah's Witnesses' at 2 Nevska St.	No proceedings were instituted.
17	Yenakieve, Donetsk Region	5 June 2009: S.A. Bykov and S.A. Tyron were caught by persons on duty as they attempted to desecrate the Kingdom Hall located at 20 Torhova St.	No proceedings were instituted.
18	Yenakieve, Donetsk Region	5/6 June 2009: Unidentified person/s painted signs and inscriptions on the wall of the Kingdom Hall located at 64 Tolbukhina St.	Criminal proceedings were instituted for mere hooliganism but no one was charged.
19	Yenakieve, Donetsk Region	8 June 2009: Unidentified person/s damaged the walls and broke windows of the Kingdom Hall located at 20 Torhova St.	No proceedings were instituted.
20	Yenakieve, Donetsk Region	29/30 August 2009: During the night unidentified persons painted obscene pictures, swastika, and insulting inscriptions like "Jehovah is Satan that deceives you" on the walls of the Kingdom Hall located at 1 Krasnoshapky St.	Criminal proceedings were instituted for mere hooliganism but no one was charged.
21	Yenakieve, Donetsk Region	9 September 2009: Unidentified person/s desecrated the facade of the Kingdom Hall located at 20 Torhova St.	No proceedings were instituted.

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Chronology of Kingdom Hall Desecration

No.	Town/City	Event	Result of investigation
22	Ilovaisk, Donetsk Region	9 October 2009: Unidentified person/s desecrated the facade of the Kingdom Hall located at 28 Shevchenka St.	No proceedings were instituted.
23	Slavuta, Khmelnysk Region	4 December 2009: Unidentified person/s using a pneumatic gun, desecrated the façade of the Kingdom Hall at 25 Ostrozka St.	No proceedings were instituted.
24	Lviv	11 December 2009: Unidentified person/s threw green paint at the wall of the Kingdom Hall located at 3a Linkolna St.	No proceedings were instituted.

2010

No.	Town/City	Event	Result of investigation
1	Slaviansk, Donetsk Region	3 July 2010: Two unidentified persons broke windows of the Kingdom Hall located at 25 Smolianska St.	No proceedings were instituted.
2	Kahanka, Kirovohrad Region	On July 2010 unidentified person/s broke windows in the Kingdom Hall located at 112 Myru St.	No proceedings were instituted.
3	Zbarazh, Ternopil Region	25 December 2010: Unidentified person/s broke windows of the Kingdom Hall located at 4 Chekhova St.	No proceedings were instituted.
4	Ternopil	30/31 December 2010: During the night unidentified person/s painted a sign “Death to sectarians!” on the fence, broke windows, and desecrated the façade of the Kingdom Hall located at 3a Troleibusna St.	No proceedings were instituted.
5	Ternopil	30/31 December 2010: During the night unidentified person/s broke windows, desecrated the facade, and painted “Death to sectarians!” on the wall of the Kingdom Hall located at 63 Sakharova St.	No proceedings were instituted.

2011

No.	Town/City	Event	Result of investigation
1	Verkhovyna, Ivano-Frankivsk Region	24/25 July 2011: I. Semeniuk and two other persons broke windows and desecrated the facade of the Kingdom Hall located at 23a Zhabivska St.	No proceedings were instituted.
2	Borzna, Chernihiv Region	3 June 2011: A. Berdnyk, Ya. Rezvikh, A. Kudel and M. Basenko threw eggs at the Kingdom Hall at 22a Desniaka St.	No proceedings were instituted.

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Chronology of Kingdom Hall Desecration

No.	Town/City	Event	Result of investigation
3	Lviv	5 August 2011: Unidentified person/s broke a window of the Kingdom Hall located at 76a Chervona Kalyna St.	No proceedings were instituted.
4	Zabolotiv, Ivano-Frankivsk Region	13/14 August 2011: Three unidentified persons broke windows of the Kingdom Hall located at 12a B. Khmelnyshoho St.	No proceedings were instituted.
5	Lviv	19 August 2011: Unidentified person/s broke a window of the Kingdom Hall located at 76a Chervona Kalyna St.	No proceedings were instituted.
6	Nikopol, Dnipropetrovsk Region	20 October 2011: Unidentified person/s broke a window of the Kingdom Hall located at 2/2 Holovko St.	No proceedings were instituted.
7	Mariupol, Donetsk Region	30/31 October 2011: During the night unidentified individuals set fire to the Kingdom Hall located at 16a Tarasova St.	No proceedings were instituted.
8	Buryn, Sumy Region	7 November 2011: N. Andreichenko desecrated the Kingdom Hall located at 26 Lenina St. while trying to break in.	The perpetrator was never charged criminally. He only had to pay an administrative fine (approx. 8 USD).
9	Stepnohirs'k, Dnipropetrovsk Region	11 November 2011: O. Kravets and other persons damaged the roof and facade of the Kingdom Hall located at 7 Sadova St.	No proceedings were instituted.
10	Kremen'chuk, Poltava Region	17 November 2011: Unidentified person/s broke a window of the Kingdom Hall located at 54 Baturina St.	No proceedings were instituted.
11	Stepnohirs'k, Dnipropetrovsk Region	18 November 2011: O. Kravets and other persons desecrated the facade and broke a window of the Kingdom Hall located at 7 Sadova St.	No proceedings were instituted.
12	Novoarkhanhels'k, Kirovohrad Region	4 December 2011: Unidentified person/s damaged the fence of the Kingdom Hall located at 10 Festyvalnyi St.	No proceedings were instituted.
13	Polianky, Ivano-Frankivsk Region	12/13 December 2011: Unidentified person/s wrote an offensive message on the Kingdom Hall located at 390 Tsentralna St.	No proceedings were instituted.
14	Baranivka, Zhytomyr Region	16 December 2011: A. Sus and two other persons destroyed the sign "Kingdom Hall of Jehovah's Witnesses" located at 3 Lenina Str.	No proceedings were instituted.
15	Vuhlehirsk, Donetsk Region	18 December 2011: Unidentified person/s desecrated with paint the facade of the Kingdom Hall located at 1 Krasnoshapky St.	An investigation was started only six months later. No one was charged. (Case No. 36-12301-1183).

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Chronology of Kingdom Hall Desecration

2012

No.	Town/City	Event	Result of the investigation
1	Verkhovyna, Ivano-Frankivsk Region	2 January 2012: Paint was thrown at Kingdom Hall at 23a Zhabievska St	No proceedings were instituted.
2	Verkhovyna, Ivano-Frankivsk Region	4 January 2012: Paint was thrown at Kingdom Hall at 23a Zhabievska St.	No proceedings were instituted.
3	Yanakieve, Donetsk Region	4 January 2012: An individual broke windows of the Kingdom Hall at 1 Nevskoho St. and hit the person on guard duty. Police apprehended the perpetrator the same day.	Six months later proceedings were instituted for hooliganism. (No. 36-12-01-1112). The perpetrator has not been charged nor punished.
4	Novosilky, Kyiv Region	12 January 2012: Unidentified person/s broke a window at the Kingdom Hall located at 68 Vasylkivska St.	No proceedings were instituted.
5	Kaharlyk, Kyiv Region	12/13 January 2012: During the night shots from a pneumatic gun damaged the facade of the Kingdom Hall at 7a Narodna St.	No proceedings were instituted.
6	Kozova, Tepnopol Region	28 January 2012: Unidentified person/s broke the window of the Kingdom Hall at 12 Koliova St. and left a warning: "Away with sectarians!"	No proceedings were instituted.
7	Cherkasy	11 February 2012: V. Moroz threw a bottle of an inflammable liquid and set fire to the Kingdom Hall at 483 Ilina St.	No proceedings were instituted.
8	Ovruch, Zhytomyr Region	9/10 March 2012: During the night unidentified person/s tore off the "Kingdom Hall of Jehovah's Witnesses" sign and damaged the fence of the Kingdom Hall at 2 Biliaevskoho St.	No proceedings were instituted
9	Ovruch, Zhytomyr Region	10/11 March 2012: During the night unidentified person/s damaged the fence of the Kingdom Hall at 2 Biliaevskoho St.	No proceedings were instituted
10	Zuhres, Donetsk Region	7/8 March 2012: During the night unidentified person/s set the Kingdom Hall on fire located at 1 Cherniakhovskoho St.	Proceedings were started only 10 months later. No one was charged or punished. (No. 12013050550000117).
11	Mariupol, Donetsk Region	11 March 2012: Unidentified person/s broke windows and damaged the facade of the Kingdom Hall at 10 Sorok Rokiv Zhovtnia St.	No proceedings were instituted
12	Mariupol, Donetsk Region	16 March 2012: Unidentified person/s broke windows and damaged the facade of the Kingdom Hall at 10 Sorok Rokiv Zhovtnia St. again.	No proceedings were instituted

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Chronology of Kingdom Hall Desecration

No.	Town/City	Event	Result of investigation
13	Mariupol, Donetsk Region	17 March 2012: For the third time in a row, unidentified person/s broke windows and damaged the facade of the Kingdom Hall at 10 Sorok Rokiv Zhovtnia St.	No proceedings were instituted
14	Mariupol, Donetsk Region	19 March 2012: For the fourth time in a row unidentified person/s broke windows and damaged the facade of the Kingdom Hall at 10 Sorok Rokiv Zhovtnia St.	No proceedings were instituted
15	Cherkasy	18 March 2012: Unidentified person/s broke the windows of the Kingdom Hall located at 483 Ilna St.	No proceedings were instituted
16	Luhansk	26 March 2012: Unidentified person/s broke windows of the Kingdom Hall located at 82 Smirnova St.	No proceedings were instituted
17	Berezhany, Ternopil Region	26 March 2012: N. Kuzma, O. Mykhailechenko and O. Lutsiv broke windows of the Kingdom Hall at 8 Striltsiv St.	No proceedings were instituted
18	Berezovytsia, Ternopil Region	9 April 2012: Unidentified person/s damaged the facade of the Kingdom Hall located at 22 Vidrodzhenia St.	No proceedings were instituted
19	Berezovytsia, Ternopil Region	16 April 2012: Four young men damaged the electrical control unit and turned off video surveillance cameras installed on the Kingdom Hall at 22 Vidrodzhenia St.	No proceedings were instituted
20	Synelnykove, Dnipropetrovsk Region	2 May 2012: Unidentified person/s broke the window of the Kingdom Hall located at 81 Pivdenna St.	No proceedings were instituted
21	Lozova, Kharkiv Region	3 May 2012: Pneumatic gun shots broke windows of the Kingdom Hall located at 14b Savastopolskyi Avenue.	No proceedings were instituted
22	Zdolbuniv, Rivne Region	4 Ma 2012: Unidentified person/s broke the window of the Kingdom Hall located at 1a Drahomanova St.	No proceedings were instituted
23	Znamianka, Kirovohrad Region	8/9 May 2012: During the night two individuals broke the windows of the Kingdom Hall at 60 Frunze St.	No proceedings were instituted
24	Zabolotiv, Ivano- Frankivsk Region	9/10 May 2012: During the night unidentified person/s broke the window of the Kingdom Hall at 20 Bohdanova St.	No proceedings were instituted.
25	Shostka, Sumy Region	14 May 2012: Unidentified person/s set fire to the Kingdom Hall at 27 Lenina St.	Proceedings were instituted. No one has been charged or punished. (No. 12190166)

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Chronology of Kingdom Hall Desecration

No.	Town/City	Event	Result of Investigation
26	Zhytomyr	14 May 2012: Unidentified person/s, using a pneumatic gun, shot and broke the windows of the Kingdom Hall at 16/1 Berdychivska St.	Proceedings were instituted only two months later. No one has been charged or punished. (No. 12/080705).
27	Kherson	21/22 May 2012: During the night unidentified person/s drew a cross and wrote 'sect' on the Kingdom Hall at 17 Makiivska St.	No proceedings were instituted
28	Donetsk	26 May 2012: Unidentified person/s set fire to the Kingdom Hall at 121 Enhelsa St.	Proceedings were instituted. No one was charged or punished. (No. 06-2036)
29	Yalta, Autonomy Republic of Crimea	28 May 2012: O. Hrushchynskyi damaged the facade of the Kingdom Hall at 11 Suvorivska St.	No proceedings were instituted.
30	Synelnykove, Dnipropetrovsk Region	2 June 2012: Unidentified person/s damaged the facade of the Kingdom Hall located at 81 Pivdena St.	No proceedings were instituted
31	Forlohan, Zakarpatska Region	11 June 2012: Unidentified person/s broke a window at the Kingdom Hall at 35 Myru St.	No proceedings were instituted
32	Severodonetsk, Luhansk Region	11 June 2012: Five young men broke windows of the Kingdom Hall located at 28 Pershotravneva St.	No proceedings were instituted
33	Vinnytsia	17 June 2012: Unidentified person/s broke the window of the Kingdom Hall located at 26 Verkharna St.	No proceedings were instituted.
34	Fastiv, Kyiv Region	20 June 2012: Unidentified person/s broke windows of the Kingdom Hall located at 18 Tolstoho St.	No proceedings were instituted
35	Lozova, Kharkiv Region	30 June 2012: Unidentified person/s fired a pneumatic gun and broke the windows of the Kingdom Hall at 14b Sevastopolska Avenue.	No proceedings were instituted
36	Hlobyne, Poltava Region	3 July 2012: Unidentified person/s broke a window of the Kingdom Hall at 128 Lenina St.	No proceedings were instituted
37	Vynnyky, Lviv Region	11 July 2012: Unidentified person/s broke a window of the Kingdom Hall at 1 Bankha St.	No proceedings were instituted
38	Krasnyi Luch, Luhansk Region	15 July 2012: Unidentified person/s broke three windows of the Kingdom Hall at 37 Radianska St.	Proceedings were instituted only three months later. No one was charged or punished.
39	Vynnyky, Lviv Region	3 August 2012: For the second time, unidentified person/s broke windows at the Kingdom Hall at 1 Bankha St.	No proceedings were instituted
40	Yanakieve, Donetsk Region	5 August 2012: Unidentified person/s set fire to the Kingdom Hall at 64 Tolbukhina St. totally destroying the building.	Proceedings were instituted for property damage. No one was charged or punished. (No. 36-12-03-1730)

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Chronology of Kingdom Hall Desecration

No.	Town/City	Event	Result of investigation
41	Debaltseve, Donetsk Region	5 August 2012: Unidentified person/s set fire to the Kingdom Hall at 25 Radianska St. totally destroying the building.	Proceedings were instituted for property damage. No one was charged or punished. (No. 31-1146)
42	Nikopol, Dnipropetrovsk Region	20 September 2012: Unidentified person/s broke a window of the Kingdom Hall 2/2 Holovka St.	No proceedings were instituted
43	Yanakieve, Donetsk Region	6/7 October 2012: During the night unidentified person/s set fire to the Kingdom Hall at 24a Roza Luxembourg St.	Proceedings were instituted. No one was charged or punished. (No. 36-12-03-1880).
44	Vuhlehirsk, Donetsk Region	6/7 October 2012: During the night, unidentified person/s attempted to set on fire the Kingdom Hall at 1 Krasnoshapky St.	Proceedings were instituted. No one was charged or punished. (No. 36-12-03-1880)
45	Kostiantynivka, Donetsk Region	7/8 October 2012: During the night two young men broke windows of the Kingdom Hall at 20 Burdenko St. with a pneumatic gun.	No proceedings were instituted.
46	Berezovytsia, Ternopil Region	14 October 2012: Unidentified person/s damaged the fence of the Kingdom Hall located at 22 Vidrozhdenia St.	No proceedings were instituted.
47	Luboml, Volyn Region	17/18 October 2012: During the night, unidentified person/s broke into the Kingdom Hall at Luhova St. to rob valuables. None were found.	No proceedings were instituted.
49	Sumy	17/18 October 2012: During the night, unidentified person/s broke windows of the Kingdom Hall located at 8 Matiushenka St.	No proceedings were instituted.
50	Stanitsa Luhanska, Luhansk Region	2/3 December 2012: During the night, unidentified person/s broke a window of the Kingdom Hall located at 37a Haharina St.	Proceedings were instituted. No one was charged or punished. (No. 12012030570000147)

Annex 2

Chronology of Kingdom Hall Desecration

2013

No	Place	Facts	Police Reaction
1	Pavlohrad, Dnipropetrovsk Region	28 January 2013: Unidentified person/s damaged the fence and tore off the Kingdom Hall information board at 3-35 Komarova St.	No proceedings were instituted.
2	Horlivka, Donetsk Region	5 February 2013: Unidentified person/s set on fire the Kingdom Hall located at 4 Hertsen St.	Proceedings were instigated. No one has been charged or punished. (No. 12013051030000751)
3	Makiivka, Donetsk Region	11 February 2013: Unidentified person/s damaged the facade of the Kingdom Hall located at 17 Pecherska St.	No proceedings were instituted.
4	Vuhlehirsk, Donetsk Region	12 February 2013: Vandals damaged the Kingdom Hall at 1 Krasnoshapky St. shooting at it with a pneumatic gun.	No proceedings were instituted.
5	Voznesensk, Mykolaiv Region	27/28 February 2013: During the night unidentified person/s damaged the electric meter, scratched 666 in large numbers on the entrance door and placed tree branches in the form of a swastika on the ground.	No proceedings were instituted.
6	Lebedyn, Sumy Region	6 March 2013: Unidentified person/s broke two windows of the Kingdom Hall at 3a Antonova St.	No proceedings were instituted.
7	Novoarkhanhelsk, Kirovohrad Region	24/25 February 201: During the night unidentified person/s damaged the façade of the Kingdom Hall at 10 Festyvalnyi St.	No proceedings were instituted.
8	Ternopil	25 March 2013: An unidentified person, caught on surveillance video, wrote "Away with the sect!" on the Kingdom Hall at 6a Sakharova St.	No proceedings were instituted.
9	Tatarbunary, Odesa Region	5 April 2013: Unidentified person/s damaged the Kingdom Hall located at 23 Dvadtsiat Tretioho Serpnia St. with shots from a pneumatic gun.	No proceedings were instituted.
10	Yenakievo, Donetsk Region	6/7 April 2013: During the night unidentified person/s threw stone damaging the facade of the Kingdom Hall located at 27 Potiomkin St.	No proceedings were instituted.
11	Cherkasy	7/8 April 2013 During the night five people, captured on surveillance video wrote obscene graffiti on the Kingdom Hall at 283 Ilina St.	No proceedings were instituted.
12	Avdiivka, Donetsk Region	20/21 April 2013: During the night unidentified person/s stole seven video surveillance cameras from the Kingdom Hall located at 29 Maiakovskoho St.	A request was made, but the authorities did not provide any information as to whether proceedings were instituted or not.

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Chronology of Kingdom Hall Desecration

No.	Town/City	Event	Result of investigation
13	Kremenchuk, Poltava Region	22/23 April 2013: During the night unidentified person/s wrote offensive graffiti on the walls of the Kingdom Hall at 93 Prykhodka St.	No proceedings were instituted.
14	Volnovakha, Donetsk Region	Between 21 to 25 April 2013 unidentified person/s repeatedly desecrated the facade of the Kingdom at 68 Kalinina St. with obscene graffiti.	No proceedings were instituted.
15	Stanitsa Luhanska, Luhansk Region	10 April 2013: Unidentified person/s tore off the Kingdom Hall information board at 37a Haharina St.	No proceedings were instituted.
16	Avdiivka, Donetsk Region	28/29 April 2013: During the night unidentified person/s broke a window of the Kingdom Hall at 29 Maiakovskoho St.	No proceedings were instituted.
17	Donetsk	31 April/1May 2013: During the night unidentified person/s damaged the facade of the Kingdom Hall at 28 Putylovskoho St.	No proceedings were instituted.
18	Lviv	30 April 2013: Unidentified person/s broke windows of the Kingdom Hall at 24 Olesnytskoho St.	No proceedings were instituted.
19	Sumy	7 May 2013: Unidentified person/s damaged the roof of the Kingdom Hall at 6a Korotchenko St.	No proceedings were instituted.
20	Lozova, Kharkiv region	2/3 May 2013: During the night unidentified person/s using a pneumatic gun, shot at and damaged the Kingdom Hall located at 14b Sevastopolskyi Ave.	No proceedings were instituted.
21	Haivoron, Kirovohrad Region	9 May 2013: Unidentified person/s wrote obscene and offensive graffiti on the Kingdom Hall located at 8 Chapaieva St.	No proceedings were instituted.
22	Zaporizhia	21 May 2013: An unidentified person/s broke a window of the Kingdom Hall located at 41/43 Osnovna St.	No proceedings were instituted.
23	Zaporizhia	25/26 May 2013: During the night unidentified person/s again broke a window of the Kingdom Hall located at 41/43 Osnovna St.	No proceedings were instituted.

Annex 3

Submission to the UN Human Rights Committee

UKRAINE

(108th Session of the Human Rights Committee, 8-26 July 2013)

From The European Association of Jehovah's Christian Witnesses

Annex 3

Chronology of Assaults on Jehovah's Witnesses

2008

No.	Town/City	Event	Result of Investigation
1	Kremenchuk, Poltava Region	24 March 2008: V. Lytvynenko assaulted two women. He broke the nose of one causing her to faint.	Perpetrator was charged with hooliganism. He received a suspended sentence of one year of liberty restraint with a one year probation period. (No. 01-12/09)
2	Secretarivka, Odesa Region	11 May 2008: Orthodox priest Mykola assaulted and threatened two elderly women.	No proceedings ¹ were instituted.
3	Myrhorod, Poltava Region	29 July 2008: Orthodox priest O. Makahon verbally threatened two women, destroying their religious literature.	No proceedings were instituted.
4	Kotlovyna, Odesa Region	21 June 2008: Orthodox priest, A. Kapsamun, assaulted a man, breaking his jaw. The same day he assaulted another man.	Proceedings were instituted but the priest was never charged and punished for his crimes.
5	Chehodarivka, Odesa Region	9 August 2008: Orthodox priest I. Leshko and others damaged a car and forcibly performed a 'baptism rite' on several Witnesses.	No proceedings were instituted.
6	Oksamytno, Odesa Region	6 July 2008: Orthodox priest I. Dimitriohlov assaulted an elderly woman.	No proceedings were instituted.
7	Odesa	21 August 2008: A young man, named Paul, assaulted an elderly woman. He repeatedly punched her in the face until she collapsed.	No proceedings were instituted.
8	Kamiane, Odesa Region	2 October 2008: In the presence of a police officer, Orthodox priest, Kucheryna, assaulted a young man, punching him in the face.	No proceedings were instituted.
9	Mykulyntsi, Ternopil Region	12 October 2008: I. Hromyk assaulted a man and a child hitting them with a wooden club.	No proceedings were instituted.
10	Berezniaky, Kharkiv Region	10 November 2008: V. Vetko fired two shots at individuals calling them 'demons' and 'sectarians'.	No proceedings were instituted.

¹ This refers to criminal proceedings which are instituted once a criminal case is started by a decision from either the investigator or the prosecutor.

Annex 3

Chronology of Assaults on Jehovah's Witnesses

2009

No.	Town/City	City	Results of investigation
1	Luhansk	1 January 2009: O. Delikatnyi assaulted two elderly women punching and kicking them repeatedly. When one of them fainted, he continued kicking her.	25 February 2011 the court imposed a suspended sentence of two years liberty restraint, with a two year probation period (No. 1/1203/21/2011).
2	Skopivka, Ivano-Frankivsk Region	24 January 2009: A local priest assaulted an elderly women, punching her in the face. As a result of her injuries, she was hospitalized.	No proceedings were instituted.
3	Kryva Balka, Odesa Region	29 March 2009: Orthodox priest, O. Stoian, assaulted two women, punching and threatening them.	No proceedings were instituted.
4	Novi Mlynny, Chernihiv Region	20 April 2009: Orthodox priest, M. Lysenko, assaulted two women with a club, hitting them on their head, back and arms. One of the victims is a disabled person. Both women were hospitalized for two days.	Proceedings were instituted, but the priest was never charged and punished for his crime. (No. 03/05640).
5	Kharkiv	18 July 2009: A. Chentsev fractured the nose to a young woman and punched her husband.	Proceedings against A. Chentsev were instituted for hooliganism. Victims were never advised as to whether he was charged and punished. (No. 67090955)
6	Novi Mlynny, Chernihiv Region	On 4 October 2009: Orthodox priest, M. Lysenko, punched a woman several times. The attack was caught on video.	No proceedings were instituted.

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Chronology of Assaults on Jehovah's Witnesses

2010

No.	Town/City	Event	Result of investigation
1	Yenakieve, Donetsk Region	2 March 2010: O. Medvedchuk head butted a teenager-girl several times in the face.	No proceedings were instituted. A simple administrative fine was imposed (approx. 8 USD).
2	Sekretarivka, Odesa Region	11 and 14 May 2010: Yu. Batiuta assaulted six women, including some elderly ones, punching and kicking them.	5 October 2010 Yu. Batiuta received a suspended sentence of three years liberty restraint, with a probation period of a year and six months. (No. 1-281/2010)
3	Petrivka, Autonomous Republic of Crimea	31 July 2010: P. Tsybulin armed with a knife threatened to kill two men.	Proceedings were instituted. (No. 11001290102). Tsybulin was charged, but he fled – so he was never punished.

2011

No.	Town/City	Event	Result of investigation
1	Tsarychanka, Dnipropetrovsk Region	9 January 2011: A man armed with an axe disrupted a religious service, threatening to kill those in attendance.	No proceedings were instituted.
2	Brustory, Ivano- Frankivsk Region	14 February 2011: M. Rybaruk, V. Matychuk and H. Petriv assaulted two men, repeatedly punching them in the head.	No proceedings were instituted.
3	Avdiivka, Donetsk Region	5 April 2011: An unidentified man assaulted an elderly woman, repeatedly punching her in the face and causing her to fall.	No proceedings were instituted.
4	Zelenodolsk, Dnipropetrovsk Region	21 April 2011: an unidentified man assaulted a minor, punching him.	No proceedings were instituted.
5	Holovkivka, Cherkasy Region	25 May 2011: Orthodox priest Ihor assaulted two teenage boys, punching them.	No proceedings were instituted.
6	Zhabianka, Chernihiv Region	3 June 2011: P. Lehkodukh assaulted two young women, repeatedly punching them.	Proceedings were only instituted in 2013. Lehkodukh was never charged nor punished.
7	Mykolaiv	6 June 2011: O. Hrushchynskyi wounded a man by shooting at him three times with a pneumatic pistol.	No proceedings were instituted.
8	Trostanets, Sumy Region	7 August 2011: B. Holovchenko assaulted a woman, repeatedly punching her in the face and bruising her arms.	Proceedings were instituted and the case was settled by a friendly agreement.

Annex 3

Chronology of Assaults on Jehovah's Witnesses

2012

No.	Town/City	Event	Result of investigation
1	Yenakieve, Donetsk Region	4 January 2012: An individual assaulted the person on guard duty at a Kingdom Hall, repeatedly punching and kicking him. Police detained the attacker.	Proceedings were instituted only six month later. The attacker has not been charged nor punished. (No. 42012050270000030).
2	Dymytrov, Donetsk Region	2 February 2012: N. Nakhmedov assaulted a disabled person suffering from kidney disease. The victim suffered internal bleeding for three weeks and was hospitalized for three weeks. His health deteriorated and on 26 May 2013 he died.	Proceedings were only instituted in March 2013. The perpetrator was never charged nor punished. (No. 42013050230000022).
3	Luhansk	20 February 2012: I. Hlazunov assaulted a man fracturing his skull.	I. Hlazunov was accused hooliganism and infliction of medium degree bodily harm and was convicted. The punishment is unknown since the victim was never served with a copy of the decision. (No. 04/12/9079)
4	Stepnohirsk, Zaporizhia Region	15 March 2012: M. Elfimov threatened to harm two elderly women, destroying their religious literature. He was detained by the police.	No proceedings were instituted.
5	Kotlovyna, Odesa Region	31 March 2012: Orthodox priest, A. Kapsamun, assaulted a young man, repeatedly punching him in the head.	No proceedings were instituted.
6	Komyshivka, Odesa Region	5 April 2012: Orthodox priest, A. Greku, along with two others disrupted a religious service, assaulted a young man punching him and violently shoved women and children.	Proceedings were instituted only six months later. The priest and his followers were never charged nor punished. (No. 120121170150000507)
7	Mykulyntsi, Ternopil Region	13 May 2012: I. Hromyk assaulted a woman, hitting her twice in the head.	Proceedings were instituted, but he was never charged nor punished. (No. 12013210170000073).
8	Mala Smilianka, Chernihiv Region	21 May 2012: Yu. Zadorozhnyi assaulted two elderly women, punching them and causing them to fall on the ground.	Proceedings were instituted only one year later. He has never been charged nor punished. (No. 12012250230000391).
9	Komyshivka, Odesa Region	23 May 2012: The car of a local Jehovah's Witness was burnt.	Proceedings were instituted but no one was charged nor punished. (No. 1201211700150000508).
10	Komyshivka, Odesa Region	On 19 June 2012: An Orthodox priest, A. Greku, accompanied by V. Omelchenko, assaulted four young individuals, punching them.	No proceedings were instituted.

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Chronology of Assaults on Jehovah's Witnesses

No.	Town/City	Event	Result of investigation
11	Polianetske, Odesa Region	14 July 2012: Two young men were forced into a car by two men. The police was called and intervened to release the two men and detain the kidnappers.	Proceedings were instituted, but no one was charged or punished.
12	Lviv	9 September 2012: An unidentified young man assaulted an elderly man and fractured his skull.	Proceedings were instituted, but no one was charged or punished.
13	Liubashivka, Odesa Region	10 November 2012: An unidentified person assaulted a young man, kicking him in the stomach.	No proceedings were instituted.

Annex 3

Chronology of Assaults on Jehovah's Witnesses

2013

No.	Town/City	Event	Result of investigation
1	Komyshivka, Odesa Region	6 February 2013: Orthodox priest, A. Greku, assaulted a young man, punching him in the face.	No proceedings were instituted.
2	Komyshivka, Odesa Region	27/28 February 2011: During the night, while five local Jehovah's Witnesses were sleeping a fire was started when an inflammable mixture was thrown in their room endangering their lives.	Proceedings were instituted, but only for damage to property. No one was charged nor punished. (No. 12013170150001194).
3	Mariupol, Donetsk Region	2 March 2013: An individual assaulted a man, his wife and their 22 year old disabled son with a club. The wife's arm was broken and the husband and son were hit repeatedly on their heads and backs.	The attacker was accused of hooliganism and infliction of medium degree bodily harm (No. 12013050770001147). The Investigator refused to classify the son as a victim. The attacker has never been punished.
4	Novosilky, Chernihiv Region	7 March 2013: V. Seleznirov assaulted a woman, punching her in the face.	Proceedings were started. Even though V. Seleznirov was identified as a suspect, he has neither been charged nor punished. (No. 12013260200000076).
5	Mariupol, Donetsk Region	22 March 2013: An unidentified person assaulted a woman punching her in the head.	Proceedings were started but no one was charged nor punished. (№ 12013050790000940).
6	Stryi, Lviv Region	10 April 2013: An unidentified person assaulted a man, punching him.	Proceedings for infliction of minor bodily harm have been in progress (№ 1201315013000711). No one has been charged nor punished.

Annex 4

Submission to the UN Human Rights Committee

UKRAINE

(108th Session of the Human Rights Committee, 8-26 July 2013)

From The European Association of Jehovah's Christian Witnesses

Annex 4



Samuel York – attacked by Dmytro Buzhyn on 19 December 2006. His injuries were so severe that he had to be hospitalized at the First Soviet Hospital of Kremenchuk for more than one month.