

14

Feb
2017
▲ Lvl. 1


Resolved

Ukraine

Alert created on: 21 Jan 2016

Ukrainian Journalist Maria Varfolomeyeva Held for over a Year in Eastern Ukraine

SOURCE OF THREAT ▶ Non-state

CATEGORY  ▶ Detention and imprisonment of journalists

PARTNER: EFJ/IFJ, AEJ, RSF

Maria Varfolomeyeva, a Ukrainian journalist and media fixer who worked for Svobodny Reporter website and VostokMedia outlets, was arrested on 15 January 2015 by forces loyal to the self-proclaimed Luhansk People's Republic (LPR) on allegations of spying for the Ukrainian Army and the Right Sector (the Ukrainian nationalist movement). Varfolomeyeva was detained after taking pictures of a block of buildings in a residential area of Luhansk and has remained in detention since, facing potentially a 15- year jail sentence.

RESOLVED

14 Feb 2017: On 3 March 2016, Ms Varfolomeyeva was released from captivity. On 13 September 2016, the partner organisations of the Platform declared this case to be "resolved", concluding it was no longer an active threat to media freedom.

UPDATES

03 Mar 2016: On 3 March 2016, President Poroshenko announced that Ukrainian journalist Maria Varfolomeyeva was released.

- ➡ Article published on Ukrainska Pravda (in Ukrainian)
- ➡ Article published on Ukraine Today website: "Exclusive video: Ukrainian journalist Mariya Varfolomeyeva released after more than a year in captivity"

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

- ➡ Press release from EFJ : "One year in jail: free Ukrainian journalist Maria

Varfolomeyeva"

 Press release from RSF: "Woman reporter still held in Luhansk after six months"

STATE REPLIES 



14 Feb 2017 | Reply from the Government of Ukraine

 Official position of Ukraine