

27
Jun 2019

▲ Lvl. 1

State
replied

Ukraine

n° 50/2019

Alert created on: 09 May 2019

Ukrainian Journalist in Coma Following Assault

SOURCE OF THREAT ▶ Unknown

CATEGORY ⓘ ▶ Attacks on physical safety and integrity of journalists

PARTNER: CPJ, EFJ/IFJ, Index, RPT, RSF

On 4 May 2019, a passersby found investigative reporter Vadym Komarov in downtown Cherkasy, a city in eastern Ukraine, with severe head injuries and called an ambulance and the police, according to news reports. He was taken to a local hospital, and has been in a coma after undergoing brain surgery on the same day; his condition has been described as "grave," according to those reports. On the day of the attack, the Cherkasy police department issued a statement announcing that it had opened an investigation. On 5 May, the case was classified as attempted murder, according to news reports. Police did not specify whether they believed Komarov was targeted for his reporting. On 3 May, Komarov wrote on his Facebook page that he planned to publish information related to sports schools "in the coming days." The journalist's most recent work includes a report on protests in prisons for the independent Ukrainian news website Dzvyn.

UPDATES

20 Jun 2019: On the night of 20 June 2019, the journalist, who remained in a coma since surgery following the attack on 4 May, died.

➔ Article published by UNIAN press agency

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION ▼

➔ RSF press release

STATE REPLIES ▼



27 Jun 2019 | Reply from the Government of Ukraine

[➔ Official position of Ukraine](#)

FOLLOW-UPS



20 Jun 2019 | OSCE Media Representative deeply shocked by death of journalist Vadim Komarov in Ukraine, calls on authorities to bring perpetrators to justice

[➔ Statement by Harlem Désir](#)



20 Jun 2019 | The Council of Europe's Commissioner for Human Rights deeply saddened by the death of investigative journalist Vadym Komarov

[➔ Statement by the Commissioner for Human Rights on Twitter](#)



09 May 2019 | OSCE Media Freedom Representative appalled by attempted murder of journalist in Cherkasy, Ukraine, calls for effective investigation.

[➔ Statement by Harlem Désir](#)