

12
Dec 2019

▲ Lvl. 1

No state
reply yet

Azerbaijan

n° 68/2017

Alert created on: 30 Jun 2017

Azerbaijani Director of Internet Television Re-arrested

SOURCE OF THREAT ▶ **State**

CATEGORY  ▶ **Detention and imprisonment of journalists**

NO STATE REPLY YET

PARTNER: EFJ/IFJ, Index, RSF

Aziz Orujov, director of internet television Kanal 13, was re-arrested on 1 June 2017 in Azerbaijan. On 2 May he was found guilty by court of committing an administrative offence - disobedience to a lawful order by police officer - and sentenced for 30 days. On 1 June, two hours before his expected release, he was taken to the Serious Crimes Investigation Department, then charged with illegal entrepreneurship with large income and abuse of official power. The judge has ordered the journalist's pre-trial detention for four months. After Orujov's arrest, searches have been conducted in his apartment and in the office of Kanal 13. Computers, electronic carriers and documents were confiscated. Orujov's wife said that she is concerned about Orujov's health because he suffers from chronic diseases. Media reported that the case against Orujov is connected with his professional activities. Kanal 13 produces programmes on social and economic topics, presenting, among other things, positions of independent experts and opposition politicians.

UPDATES

06 Apr 2018: On 5 April 2018, the Supreme Court of Azerbaijan released Aziz Orujov on a suspended three-year sentence.

 **News published by Turan News Agency: 'Supreme Court Releases Journalist Aziz Orujov'**

20 Feb 2018: On 20 February 2018, the Baku Appeal Court upheld the verdict against Aziz Orujov. The defense intends to file an appeal with the Supreme Court.

18 Dec 2017: On 15 December 2017 the Baku Court for Serious Crimes sentenced Aziz Orujov to 6 years for illegal business and misappropriation of funds.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION



- ➔ [Article on Rakurs.tv website \(in Azerbaijani\)](#)
- ➔ [Article on Caucasian Knot website: "Activists associate persecution of journalist Aziz Orudjev with his professional activities"](#)
- ➔ [Article on Caucasian Knot website "Kanal-13 office and Aziz Orujov's flat searched"](#)
- ➔ [Article on Meydan TV: "Director of Television Channel 'Kanal 13' Arrested"](#)

FOLLOW-UPS



12 Dec 2019 | In her report following her visit to Azerbaijan from 8 to 12 July 2019, the Council of Europe Commissioner for Human Rights regrets that no progress has been made regarding the protection of freedom of expression and calls on the authorities to release all those detained because of the views they expressed, notably journalists.

➔ [Statement by Dunja Mijatović](#)

OSCE **06 Apr 2018** | OSCE media freedom representative welcomes release of journalist Aziz Orudjev in Azerbaijan

➔ [Statement by Harlem Désir](#)

OSCE **18 Dec 2017** | OSCE media freedom representative calls on Azerbaijan authorities to end restrictive measures detrimental to journalists' freedom and safety

➔ [Statement by Harlem Désir](#)