

Press Release

International organizations need to call out authorities of Kyrgyz Republic and make them to investigate the actions of police forces during the Women march on March 8

Human rights movement "Bir Duino - Kyrgyzstan" called out to OSCE and UN and asked them to react on the harsh actions of police during the peaceful Women's March of Solidarity.

OSCE and UN should call out Kyrgyz officials on following the civil rights for peaceful rallies and also conduct an comprehensive investigation of the events of March 8.

International organizations have to demand from the authorities of Kyrgyz Republic to bringing to account not only those who were responsible for restrictions of the peaceful rally, but also policemen who detained the partakers of the march.

They also should press for Kyrgyz authorities to call to account for provokers who acted violently towards the members of the rally.

Unknown men wearing medical masks and kalpaks made an unprecedented tough attack on the partakers of peaceful Women's March of Solidarity on March 8, 2020 in Bishkek. They also attacked activists, destroyed all the inventory and teared in pieces the posters. These people threw eggs and rocks, some participants and journalists were injured.

Policemen detained peaceful activists instead of provokers, around 70 people were taken into the Department of Internal Affairs of Sverdlov district. Rally members were there for three hours. Policemen didn't show police certificates, didn't explain the reasons of detention and also didn't let lawyers to enter the building of Department of Internal Affairs.

Police interrogated 8 organizers of the march in the separate rooms. All of them were not introduced to their rights, and they were also psychologically pressured and threatened. Policeman even ripped the passport of one detained activist.

Police officers drew up a report on the detained activists by the asset №82 of the Codex of the violations which means disobedience to a police officer.

At least 9 women who were detained on March 8 filed a complaint into State Committee of National Security on policemen of the Sverdlov district DIA. Harsh detentions happened regardless the announcements of local authorities who stated that "they did everything for women for them be sure about the next day".

Not a single provoker was arrested by the police. Some media stated that provokers worked alongside the police, and those actions were approved by the authorities.

According to the Ministry of Internal Affairs, this rally was not legal because of the restriction made by local court. However this statement contradicts the Constitution of Kyrgyz Republic.

According to the article №34 each citizen has a freedom of assembly, and it is illegal to restrict this freedoms. This is why police actions are direct violation of the constitutional rights of the citizens.