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Human Rights Hub

# OLEKSANDR DEMIANENKO STORY

Oleksandr Demianenko, a Ukrainian citizen who has resided in Georgia for the past 12 years, is a director, musician, and private business owner. He has been formally charged with petty hooliganism, failure to comply with the lawful directives of a police officer, and insulting a police officer.

Oleksandr Demianenko was arrested on November 28, 2024, in the vicinity of the Parliament, specifically on Chichinadze Street. At the time of Demianenko's arrest, the number of peaceful protesters had reached its peak, resulting in street blockages due to the large crowd. While standing near the special forces cordon, Demianenko was suddenly and without prior warning physically assaulted and detained by special forces officers who employed excessive and brutal methods during the arrest.

During the detention of Oleksandr Demianenko, numerous special forces officers subjected him to severe physical abuse. He was dragged through a cordon and lost consciousness twice due to the beating. The officers struck him repeatedly in the face and body, causing multiple injuries, including broken teeth, and verbally insulted him with degrading and offensive remark. Afterward, Demianenko was placed in a vehicle and subsequently handed over to patrol inspectors. Despite sustaining multiple severe injuries, he was held in various police vehicles for approximately three hours. His condition deteriorated to such an extent that, upon being taken to the police station, he was immediately transferred to the Ingorokva Clinic for medical treatment. According to the medical report, the physical violence resulted in a concussion, superficial scalp trauma, and facial soft tissue bruising. Demianenko remained under medical supervision for 35 hours and was discharged after a delay, based on his written consent.

In court, the case of Oleksandr Demianenko was adjudicated by Judge Nino Enukidze. Two police officers provided testimony against the detainee. It is noteworthy that neither of these officers participated in the actual detention of Demianenko, and their testimonies were inconsistent and contradicted the factual circumstances of the incident. The Ministry of Internal Affairs failed to present any objective evidence to substantiate the commission of the alleged offenses. Despite this, and notwithstanding the defense's submission of video footage documenting the arrest, the judge found Oleksandr Demianenko guilty under Articles 166 and 173, Part 1 of the Code of Administrative Offences. This decision was based solely on the testimony of the police officers, resulting in the imposition of a 2,000 GEL fine.



According to available information, the Special Investigation Service has initiated an investigation into the case, focusing on the potential exceeding official powers by an official, a criminal offence defined under Article 333 of the Criminal Code. The victim has been questioned by the Investigation Service, and an examination has been conducted.

Despite the existence of video footage documenting the incident, the Special Investigation Service has not yet identified the police officers involved, advanced the investigation to a substantive stage, or imposed any criminal liability.