

Asia-Plus interview of Muzaffar Ashurov, head of the department for the constitutional rights of the Executive Office of the President – 25 September 2012

*Translation of text missing from the English version of the interview (compare <http://news.tj/en/news/actions-some-tajik-media-may-lead-recurrence-khorog-events-says-tajik-official> with <http://news.tj/ru/news/m-ashurov-smi-sozdayut-usloviya-dlya-povtoreniya-khorogskikh-sobytij> )*

In response to criticism, a representative of the President of the Republic said: "Decisions on issues raised by members of "Asia-Plus "and the Office of Human Rights, will be made in accordance with the law."

At the end of the speech O. Tutubalina pointed at the "alarming sign" when "after these statements, the OSCE does not attempt to track the situation. Whether its statement had any effect, whether they took it into consideration (government. - Ed.) and to which extent. It seems that the organization these days is less and less bothered about it. We would like you to pay special attention to this"- she turned to the leadership of the OSCE.

Meanwhile, immediately after the end of the working sessions of the first day of the meeting, the representative of "Asia-Plus", asked M. Ashurov, head of the department for the constitutional rights of the Executive Office of the President, to comment on his statement.

- You have said that "some media create the conditions for the recurrence of such events," referring to the events in Khorog. Of what exactly are you accusing local media?

- You write that the government acted incorrectly by using force in Khorog. in this case, it turns out that you justify the criminals who operate there. In this way, you are inciting people to act against the government.

- We talk about the fact that the authorities had no legal right to send troops into a densely populated town and carry out a military operation there. It is not even us who say this, it's the law.

- It was not a military operation, the police and the National Security Committee forces acted there. This is an operation of law enforcement bodies.

- Soldiers were there ...

- There were no soldiers.

- What do you, as a public official who must serve to protect the rights of citizens say about the problem of blocking websites?

- Any restriction of the media should be within the law. Such decision is taken either in accordance with the order of the government or by a court order. Was any issued?

- No. So, the Head of the Communication Services violated the law?

- I never said that. If you take the case to court (meaning in case Asia-Plus sues the Communication Department. - Ed.), it will be decided in court ...