## L)JJAMJJCM ՆԵՆԸՅՆՑՔԸՆ ՈᲣՔՈՆՑՊՆ ՆԼՊԵՈՆԵՈՆ GEORGIAN YOUNG LAWYERS' ASSOCIATION





## The European Court began to examine the case of Giga Otkhozoria killed near the occupation line on merits

On November 8, 2018, the European Court of Human Rights (ECtHR) began to examine the case of Giga Otkhozoria on merits. In particular, the Court addressed the Russian Federation, as the respondent State, with respective questions concerning the case of Otkhozoria's murder.

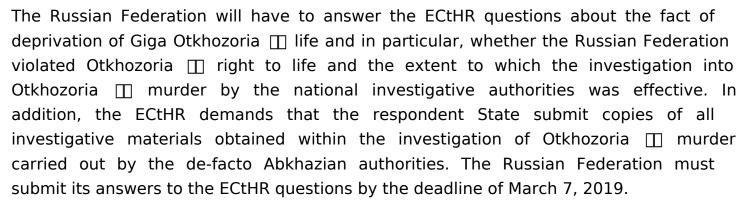
Giga Otkhozoria was killed by a so-called Abkhazian border guard, Rashid Kanji-Oghli on May 19, 2016, near the administrative border between Georgia and the region of

## 



Abkhazia, on the territory controlled by the Georgian authorities. On January 11, 2018, Otkhozoria 

familyodged an application with the ECtHR regarding the murder. In the application the plaintiffs argue that G.Otkhozoria was deprived of his life as a result of illegal use of force by the so-called Abkhazian border guard. They also argue that investigation into the murder was ineffective.



Giga Otkhozoria 

case sets an important precedent since the Court will have to address the question of whether the Russian Federation is exercising effective control over the territory of Abkhazia and whether it is responsible for actions of representatives of the de-facto Abkhazian authorities.

In addition, the case of Otkhoziria clearly depicts the alarming situation on the occupied territories of Abkhazia and Tskhinvali and in villages near the occupation line, with respect to human rights situation, and it clearly demonstrates once more the serious security problems at the so-called administrative border.