



**Observatoire ARGA**

## **MASTER DOSSIER: Yury Sazonov**

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### I. CASE IDENTIFICATION

Individual concerned:

Yury Viktorovich Sazonov

Date of birth: 17.04.1961

Place of birth: Minsk, BSSR

Citizenship: Germany, Republic of Belarus

Place of residence: Greece

Essence of the case:

Extradition proceedings initiated at the request of the Russian Federation in connection with criminal prosecution under Part 2 of Article 201 of the Criminal Code of the Russian Federation (“abuse of authority resulting in grave consequences”), initiated post factum after the completion of the bankruptcy procedure and not connected to the actual exercise of managerial functions.

## II. EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The case of Yury Sazonov constitutes an example of the criminalization of business and bankruptcy-related activity, transformed into criminal prosecution, followed by the use of INTERPOL mechanisms and extradition tools as instruments of pressure.

The case materials confirm:

- the absence of Yury Sazonov’s status as a qualifying subject of the alleged offence;
- the absence of any managerial powers during the period attributed by the prosecution;
- the existence of properly conducted and completed insolvency (bankruptcy) proceedings;
- the lawfulness of all economic decisions, as confirmed by official sources;
- gross procedural violations in the initiation and handling of the criminal case;
- disproportionate and punitive (repressive) use of extradition mechanisms;
- a real risk of violations of Articles 2 and 3 of the European Convention on Human Rights;
- parallel pressure on relatives and family members, accompanied by confiscation of assets.

## III. FACTUAL TIMELINE

### 1. Bankruptcy and commercial-court track (2016–2019)

JSC “Mine ‘Alekseyevskaya’” was declared bankrupt by the decision of the Commercial Court (Arbitrazh Court) of the Kemerovo Region dated 20.11.2017.

Bankruptcy liquidation proceedings (competitive procedure) were introduced.

The powers of corporate management bodies were terminated by operation of law.

A bankruptcy trustee / insolvency administrator was appointed, accountable exclusively to the court.

All economic and property-related actions were carried out within the framework of Federal Law No. 127-FZ “On Insolvency (Bankruptcy)”.

### 2. Economic activity during the bankruptcy (insolvency) proceedings

Coal sales were carried out at market prices.

The price of each shipment was confirmed by official certificates issued by the Kuzbass Chamber of Commerce and Industry.

A continuous set (uninterrupted series) of certificates covering 2018–2019 is provided.

Economic parameters (ash content, calorific value, coal grade) were taken into account.

No legally established damage (harm) is identified as a legal category.

### 3. Criminal prosecution (2020–2024)

The criminal case had previously been terminated due to the absence of *corpus delicti* (no elements of a criminal offence).

After a substantial period of time, the case was reopened without any new factual grounds.

Yury Sazonov was charged in *absentia*.

Notification was carried out formally and improperly.

A preventive measure was imposed despite the absence of Russian citizenship and despite there being no real evasion.

### 4. Extradition and international track (2024–2025)

Detention in Greece on the basis of an Interpol diffusion.

Consideration of the matter by Greek courts.

Absence of an automatic suspensive effect of the decision of the Minister of Justice.

Application to the European Court of Human Rights (Rule 39).

Recording of the ECHR's legal position regarding "prematurity" in the absence of a final enforceable decision.

## IV. LEGAL ANALYSIS

### 1. Absence of the required subject of the offence

Article 201 of the Criminal Code of the Russian Federation applies exclusively to persons performing managerial functions.

During the period attributed by the prosecution, the management of JSC "Mine 'Alekseyevskaya'" was carried out by the insolvency administrator.

Yury Sazonov held no positions, had no powers of attorney, and was not a member of any management bodies.

## 2. Absence of the objective element (actus reus)

The sale of products at market price is confirmed by official sources.

Economic expediency is substantiated.

No legally established damage is demonstrated.

## 3. Absence of the subjective element (mens rea / intent)

There is no evidence of personal interest.

There is no evidence of collusion.

Expert examinations do not confirm contacts with the insolvency administrator.

## 4. Procedural violations

In absentia prosecution without proper notification.

Disregard of the previously terminated case.

Use of formal grounds outside the law.

Violation of the right to defence.

## V. INTERNATIONAL-LAW QUALIFICATION

### 1. European Convention on Human Rights

Article 2 — right to life.

Article 3 — prohibition of torture and inhuman or degrading treatment (non-refoulement).

Article 6 — right to a fair trial.

Article 13 — right to an effective remedy.

### 2. Actual risks

Risk of ill-treatment in the event of extradition to the Russian Federation.

Risk of onward transfer to Belarus.

Absence of diplomatic and procedural guarantees.

Political and repressive context.

## VI. SYSTEMIC PRESSURE ON FAMILY AND ASSETS

Indicators have been identified of:

- confiscation and seizure of the property of relatives;
- pressure on children and close persons;
- expansion of criminal and administrative impact beyond the individual concerned;
- collective responsibility contrary to international law.

These actions have the nature of extra-procedural pressure and require a separate international legal assessment.

## VII. DEFENCE STRATEGY (TWO-STAGE)

### STAGE I — PERSONAL SAFETY AND EXTRADITION

#### Objectives:

- prevention of extradition;
- establishing an international protective framework;
- documenting violations before supranational bodies.

#### Instruments:

ECHR;

INTERPOL (CCF);

UN special procedures;

official notifications to the Greek authorities.

### STAGE II — ASSET PROTECTION AND RESTORATION OF RIGHTS

The transition to this stage occurs after personal safety is stabilized.

#### Objectives:

- protection and recovery of Yury Sazonov's assets;
- protection of the assets of relatives and children;
- challenging confiscations;
- recourse to international property and human-rights mechanisms.

#### Instruments:

international human-rights procedures;

investment-law mechanisms;  
compliance assessment;  
preparation of separate asset dossiers.

## VIII. CONCLUSION

The case of Yury Sazonov is an institutionally significant case, reflecting the systemic use of criminal and extradition law for pressure, redistribution of assets, and repression.

This Master Dossier has been prepared for international legal protection, institutional response, and subsequent expansion into an active asset track.

## IX. TYPOLOGY AND COMPARATIVE EXAMPLES OF SYSTEMIC PRACTICE IN THE RUSSIAN FEDERATION

The materials in the case of Yury Sazonov are not an isolated incident. They fit within a stable pattern applied by law-enforcement and affiliated business structures in the Russian Federation.

A key feature of this practice is the transformation of economic, commercial-court (arbitrazh), and corporate disputes into criminal prosecution, followed by the use of the criminal case as a tool for:

- redistribution (reallocation) of assets;
- pressure on the individual concerned and their environment;
- “legitimization” of asset conflicts through a criminal-law wrapper;
- creating grounds for international search and extradition.

## X. TYPICAL MECHANISMS IDENTIFIED IN THE CASE OF YURY SAZONOV

### 10.1. Criminalization of bankruptcy procedures

After the enterprise is declared bankrupt and the powers of corporate management bodies are terminated, a criminal case is initiated against individuals who did not possess managerial functions.

This mechanism is fully confirmed by the materials in the case of Yury Sazonov.

### 10.2. Substitution of economic analysis with criminal assessment

Market fluctuations, sectoral factors, and objective product parameters are interpreted as “damage” without judicial establishment.

In the case of Yury Sazonov, this thesis is refuted by official certificates of the Chamber of Commerce and Industry.

### 10.3. Reopening of previously closed criminal cases

A case is closed, then reopened without new evidence, and used for in absentia charging.

This scenario is fully replicated in the case of Yury Sazonov.

### 10.4. Pressure on family and collective responsibility

Confiscations and restrictions are applied to relatives and children.

In the case of Yury Sazonov, these elements are recorded and confirmed by the materials.

### 10.5. Extradition and INTERPOL as a tool of pressure

Use of INTERPOL channels and extradition procedures without real guarantees and with direct political interference.

All the above elements are confirmed by the materials in the case of Yury Sazonov.

## XI. INTERNATIONAL ASSESSMENT OF THE PRACTICE

Such cases are qualified as:

- misuse of criminal justice;
- selective prosecution;
- politically or economically motivated criminal proceedings;
- indirect expropriation through criminal law.

## XII. LINK TO THIS MASTER DOSSIER

Each mechanism described above is confirmed by the materials in the case of Yury Sazonov, previously submitted and analyzed.

This Master Dossier is a representative example of this practice and serves as a basis for international protection and subsequent expansion into an active asset track.

European Court of Human Rights (ECHR) — <https://www.echr.coe.int>

Rules of Court (Rule 39) — [https://www.echr.coe.int/documents/rules\\_court\\_eng.pdf](https://www.echr.coe.int/documents/rules_court_eng.pdf)

Individual application form (ECHR) — [https://www.echr.coe.int/documents/application\\_form\\_eng.pdf](https://www.echr.coe.int/documents/application_form_eng.pdf)

ECHR case-law database (HUDOC) — <https://hudoc.echr.coe.int>

Council of Europe — <https://www.coe.int>

INTERPOL — <https://www.interpol.int>

Commission for the Control of INTERPOL's Files (CCF) — <https://www.interpol.int/en/Who-we-are/Commission-for-the-Control-of-INTERPOL-s-Files-CCF>

INTERPOL Rules on the Processing of Data (RPD) — <https://www.interpol.int/en/Who-we-are/Legal-framework/Data-processing>

INTERPOL Constitution — <https://www.interpol.int/en/Who-we-are/Legal-framework/Constitution>

Convention for the Protection of Human Rights and Fundamental Freedoms (ECHR) — [https://www.echr.coe.int/documents/convention\\_eng.pdf](https://www.echr.coe.int/documents/convention_eng.pdf)

Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR) — <https://www.ohchr.org>

UN Working Group on Arbitrary Detention (WGAD) — <https://www.ohchr.org/en/special-procedures/wg-arbitrary-detention>

UN Special Procedures (overview) — <https://www.ohchr.org/en/special-procedures>

Non-refoulement principle (UNHCR) — <https://www.unhcr.org/non-refoulement.html>

United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) — <https://www.unhcr.org>

UN Convention against Torture (CAT) — <https://www.ohchr.org/en/instruments-mechanisms/instruments/convention-against-torture-and-other-cruel-inhuman-or-degrading-treatment-or-punishment>

International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights (ICCPR) — <https://www.ohchr.org/en/instruments-mechanisms/instruments/international-covenant-civil-and-political-rights>

European Convention on Extradition (1957) — <https://www.coe.int/en/web/conventions/full-list?module=treaty-detail&treatynum=024>

Greek Ministry of Justice — <https://www.ministryofjustice.gr>

Arbitrazh (Commercial) Courts of the Russian Federation (KAD “Arbitr”) — <https://kad.arbitr.ru>

Federal Law of the Russian Federation No. 127-FZ “On Insolvency (Bankruptcy)” — [http://www.consultant.ru/document/cons\\_doc\\_LAW\\_39331](http://www.consultant.ru/document/cons_doc_LAW_39331)

Criminal Code of the Russian Federation — [http://www.consultant.ru/document/cons\\_doc\\_LAW\\_10699](http://www.consultant.ru/document/cons_doc_LAW_10699)

Chamber of Commerce and Industry of the Russian Federation — <https://tpprf.ru>

Kuzbass Chamber of Commerce and Industry — <https://kuztpp.ru>

ARGA Observatoire — <https://argaobservatory.org>

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We stand where a person is left alone.

Materials used for preparation (folder link):

[https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/1MWoiDmmLu6vm2Ix7XZBwyAoDDsnbf9k\\_?usp=sharing](https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/1MWoiDmmLu6vm2Ix7XZBwyAoDDsnbf9k_?usp=sharing)