



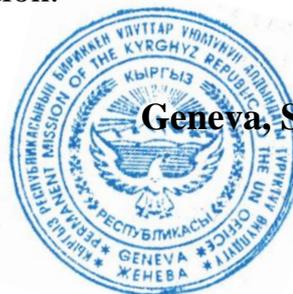
**КЫРГЫЗ РЕСПУБЛИКАСЫНЫН
ЖЕНЕВА ШААРЫНДАГЫ
ТУРУКТУУ ӨКҮЛЧҮЛҮГҮ**

**THE PERMANENT MISSION OF THE
KYRGYZ REPUBLIC IN GENEVA**

Ref. №194/064/160-1

The Permanent Mission of the Kyrgyz Republic to the United Nations and other international organizations in Geneva presents its compliments to the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights and has the honor to transmit the response of the Government of the Kyrgyz Republic to the communication dated 24 July 2025.

The Permanent Mission of the Kyrgyz Republic avails itself of this opportunity to renew to the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights the assurances of its highest consideration.



Geneva, September 20, 2025

**Office of the United Nations
High Commissioner for Human Rights
Geneva**

Translated from Russian

Reply of Kyrgyzstan to the communication from the Special Rapporteur on the promotion and protection of the right to freedom of opinion and expression, the Special Rapporteur on minority issues, the Special Rapporteur on freedom of religion or belief, the Special Rapporteur on the promotion and protection of human rights and fundamental freedoms while countering terrorism and the Special Rapporteur on torture and other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment concerning the detention of members of the World All-Union Church of Faithful and Free Seventh-day Adventists of the Reformation Movement

Ref.: AL KGZ 4/2025

The Investigation Department for Bishkek, a unit of the Main Directorate of the State Committee for National Security of Kyrgyzstan, investigated criminal case No. [REDACTED], initiated on 1 November 2024 on the grounds of an offence under article 330 (2) (3) of the Criminal Code.

According to the report of the Bishkek investigation department, with the State Committee's approval, information and material were obtained regarding an underground religious community called the "World All-Union Church of Faithful and Free Seventh-day Adventists of the Reformation Movement".

This association carried out activities based on its own religious doctrine with dogmatic religious beliefs and principles, which it disseminated among the Kyrgyz public, particularly in Bishkek and Chu Oblast.

It was established that the members of the association created an independent religious cell group, whose main principles and tenets included a ban on the consumption of animal products and alcoholic beverages, the purchase of real estate, the entry into marriage without the permission of the pastor (leader of the organization), the pursuit of higher education, the payment of taxes, the performance of military service and the use of electronic devices. It also included a mandatory monthly tithe (amounting to 20 per cent or more of any type of income or property).

During their training and membership in the association, participants received binding instructions from the pastor, including the prohibition on consuming animal products, purchasing real estate and marrying without his approval.

In view of the above, it was established that the members of the association promoted the superiority of their religion over all others. Furthermore, the literature they distributed contained instructions on disobeying State authorities and manipulating other people.

This association was not registered as a religious organization in Kyrgyzstan, and the books and materials it used had not undergone a theological expert examination by the State Commission on Religious Affairs.

According to the Commission's findings of 30 August 2024, the books and materials studied contain arguments in favour of the religion's superiority and the inferiority and harmfulness of other religions.

According to the findings of the forensic theological and linguistic expert examination of 11 October 2024, the book *A Microhistory of Babylon* contains predominantly arbitrary interpretations of canonical and ancient religious texts. The texts often distort or alter ancient scriptures for the purpose of persuading the audience or recipients of information, referring to manuscripts or other sources whose authenticity/falseness is difficult to establish.

Thus, the materials contain elements of verbal manipulation of the audience's consciousness.

A Microhistory of Babylon contains elements of propaganda advocating the superiority and exclusivity of Christianity in general, and of the adherents and supporters of the aforementioned association in particular, and the inherent inferiority, hostility and harmfulness of other religions and denominations, especially Islam.

Thus, during the investigation it was established that the leader of this underground association is a citizen of the Russian Federation, Pavel Davidovich Shreider, born on [REDACTED].

Meanwhile, Mr. Shreider, as head of the underground religious association called the World All-Union Church of Faithful and Free Seventh-day Adventists of the Reformation Movement, engaged in propaganda activities and taught the basics of the Protestant branch of Christianity. Furthermore, using manipulation techniques and religious literature related to the aforementioned underground group, he spread ideas aimed at fostering a negative and aggressive attitude towards members of other religions.

On 12 November 2024, based on a ruling by the investigating judge of the Pervomaisky District Court in Bishkek, searches were conducted at 12 addresses. As a result of the searches, books and other religious materials belonging to the underground organization were discovered and seized. The seized materials were sent for additional expert examination.

On 14 November 2024, Mr. Shreider, the leader of this association, a citizen of the Russian Federation, born on [REDACTED], was detained under article 96 of the Code of Criminal Procedure and taken to the temporary holding centre of the Main Department of Internal Affairs of Bishkek.

On 15 November 2024, Mr. Shreider was charged with committing a crime under article 330 (2) (3) of the Criminal Code, "Incitement to racial, ethnic, national, religious or interregional hostility". By order of the investigating judge of the Pervomaisky District Court of Bishkek, the accused was remanded in custody as a preventive measure until 1 January 2025 in penal institution No. 21 of the State Penal Correction Service under the Cabinet of Ministers of Kyrgyzstan.

On 27 October 2024, the above-mentioned criminal case, with the indictment confirmed, was sent to the Pervomaisky District Court of Bishkek for consideration on the merits.

By a judgment of the Pervomaisky District Court of Bishkek on 10 July 2025, Mr. Shreider was sentenced to 3 years' imprisonment, to be followed by deportation from Kyrgyzstan. Mr. Shreider's lawyer disagreed with the verdict and filed an appeal with the Bishkek City Court. The case is currently being considered.

It should also be noted that, on 19 March 2025, at the request of the procurator's office of Chu Oblast, by decision of the Alamudun District Court of Chu Oblast, the World All-Union Church of Faithful and Free Seventh-day Adventists of the Reformation Movement was declared an extremist organization, and its activities and the use of its attributes or symbols were banned in the territory of Kyrgyzstan.

The decision of the Supreme Court of Kyrgyzstan of 4 August 2025 upheld the decision of the Alamudun District Court of Chu Oblast of 19 March 2025.

At the same time, the decision to declare the World All-Union Church of Faithful and Free Seventh-day Adventists of the Reformation Movement an extremist organization was made in court on the basis of the evidence presented, which included:

- Information about the distribution of religious materials containing signs of incitement to religious hatred
- Facts relating to the involvement of citizens of Kyrgyzstan and their family members in activities that undermine public order and incite religious strife
- The findings of the relevant linguistic, theological examinations
- Information from the State Commission on Religious Affairs regarding the organization, which did not have any registration documents or permits
- Information regarding the re-registration of property to the organization's name
- Photos and videos from the investigation
- Statements from victims of the organization
- DVD discs with video materials (video of taking the oath of membership in the organization, the interior of the church and religious events in the church entitled "Whoever serves me, let him follow me")

It should also be noted that, on 29 April 2025, staff members of the Ombudsman's Office visited penal institution No. 21 of the State Penal Correction Service to meet and interview Mr. Shreider. During the interview, Mr. Shreider did not lodge any complaint about the conditions of his detention, but he did complain about feeling unwell.

Based on the results of the meeting, the Ombudsman (Akyikatchy) sent a communication to the State Penal Correction Service regarding the healthcare provided to Mr. Shreider.

In turn, the State Penal Correction Service, after reviewing the communication, reported that Mr. Shreider had been examined by doctors of the Service's General Medical Department hospital and polyclinic on 19 May 2025. According to subsequent information, Mr. Shreider was treated at the medical unit of the penal institution No. 21 and did not need consultations with other medical specialists or inpatient treatment. If hospitalization is

necessary, he may be sent for examination and treatment to a medical correctional facility at correctional colony No. 31 of the State Penal Correction Service or an institution of the Ministry of Health for a fee, as he is a citizen of another country.

It should be noted that the ban on the activities of the aforementioned association and the criminal prosecution of its individual members are carried out in accordance with national law and the international treaties to which the Kyrgyzstan is a party.
