

## IF YOUR CLOSE ONE HAS BEEN CAPTURED BY THE AGGRESSOR STATE

If you found out that your close person was captured by the aggressor state (the person oneself or someone, who is staying with this person called you and reported the capture; you saw the video or a photo on the Internet where it is recorded that your close one is in captivity; you have learned the other way that your close one was captured), the information below may be useful to you.

### I have learned that a person has been captured. What should I do?





1. Remember that the state is fighting for the return of every captive to their home.
2. Master your panic. Try to contact relatives, neighbors or colleagues who may be there along with your close one - in order to find out the circumstances known to them related to the captivity of a wanted person.
3. Before contacting the state authorities, try to collect as much information as possible about the wanted person and the circumstances of the disappearance.
4. Record all the collected information immediately after receiving it, so that you do not forget the details due to excitement, but also to keep a timeline of events.

**If it is a military person,** it is important to know her/his last name, first name and patronymic, date of birth, and contact information data, military unit or unit of service, position and rank (special rank), number of military ticket or badge number, special signs that a person has (scars, tattoos, birthmarks, etc.), last known whereabouts and other information.

**If the person is a civilian,** collect information about her/his full name, date of birth, contacts, special signs and last known place of residence. Be aware that capturing civilians is a crime.

**IMPORTANT!** Official negotiations on the release of prisoners of war and civilians are conducted exclusively by the state. If you have been approached (by phone or in social networks) by unknown people who promise you to promote release of a wanted person for a monetary reward, these very likely might be fraudsters. Save the phone number, record the details of the conversation and be sure to report such cases to the National Police.

### Where to report the capture of a person?

 <p><b>National Information Bureau</b></p> <p>- 24/7 hotline 1648 (free of charge within Ukraine) +380 44 287 81 65 (for calls from abroad); - via Telegram and Viber chatbots @nib_uncp_bot; - by filling out the form, posted on the website of the Bureau: <a href="https://nib.gov.ua">https://nib.gov.ua</a></p>  <p><i>Add a portrait photo of the wanted person and/or photo/video confirmation of capture</i></p>	 <p><b>SECURITY SERVICE OF UKRAINE</b></p> <p>- 24/7 hotline of the United Center for Search and Release of Prisoners of War of the Security Service of Ukraine +380 67 650 83 32; +380 98 087 36 01; - Email <a href="mailto:united.centre.ssu@gmail.com">united.centre.ssu@gmail.com</a></p>	 <p><b>NATIONAL POLICE</b></p> <p>- 24/7 hotline +380 89 420 18 67; - Email <a href="mailto:rozshuk_znyklyh@police.gov.ua">rozshuk_znyklyh@police.gov.ua</a>; - Telegram chatbot <a href="https://t.me/poshuk_znyklyh">t.me/poshuk_znyklyh</a>;</p> <p>Report the capture of a person to the closest unit of the National Police by your place of stay.</p> <p>When submitting an application you might be requested, if necessary, to supply biomaterial samples.</p> <p>This may be required for identification of bodies of the dead in cases where recognition is impossible. In this regard the investigator will appoint the relevant DNA expertise.</p>
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Capturing a civilian is a crime. You should submit a claim (application) about the commission of a criminal offense to the nearest police department, as well as to the Security Service of Ukraine.

Report the capture of a person to the military command (if the person is military), the relevant government body (if it is a public officer) or the employer of such a person (for civilians). This will help to avoid problems with service accounting / labor relations.

#### \* What happens next? Who is involved in the search and return of prisoners of war (captives)?

The NIB coordinates its activities with various ministries, governmental bodies and services.

In case the National Information Bureau (NIB) holds the information confirming the captivity of the wanted person at the time of your application - you will be informed about this fact immediately.

As soon as the information is received by the NIB, the data of the wanted person is entered into the register. In order to find a person, the NIB transfers information to law enforcement agencies, international monitoring agencies, missions, organizations and the Coordination Headquarters for the Search and Release of Prisoners of War for negotiations regarding the release.

When the NIB receives updated information about the person you are looking for, you will be contacted immediately.

Also, NIB may contact you in case it is necessary to find out additional data.

#### \* Where are the lists of prisoners of war (captured) published?

Lists of prisoners of war are not officially published for reasons of safety of such prisoners of war and their relatives. However, NIB is trying to contact the families of the captives, as soon as it receives confirmed information that a person is in captivity.

#### \* I have already called several times to the hotlines of the NIB, the National Security Service, and the National Police - and got no answer

The NIB, the Security Service of Ukraine, the National Police, employees of ministries and other bodies and services are constantly working to find information about all the people who could be deported or forcibly moved to the occupied territories.

If you are not contacted, this does not mean that the request is being ignored or forgotten about. As a state authority receives updated information about the deported person, close relatives are immediately informed.

#### \* Who compiles the lists of prisoners of war for release?

The issue of the release of Ukrainian citizens held captive by the aggressor state, as well as coordination with the aggressor state of the lists of persons subject to release is assigned to the competence of Coordination Headquarters for the Search and Release of Prisoners of War.

The negotiation process for release is extremely complex and largely depends on the aggressor.

#### \* When can I expect the return of the person I am looking for?

Unfortunately, it is not possible to identify the exact period when your close one will return home, because it largely depends on the actions of the aggressor state. You will be informed about the release of your loved one immediately.

#### \* How to find out about a person who has been released?

Lists of released persons are not disclosed even after the release as it may affect their and their relatives private life.

All released persons are given the opportunity to contact relatives and friends.

If the person has not contacted you after the release, please provide your contact details via "Hotline 1648", they