

**OMBUDSMAN: PEOPLE WHO COMMIT VIOLENCE UPON JOURNALISTS ARE LED
BY STREET VALUES AND CRIMINAL RULES**

RA Human Rights Defender Institution (HRDI) became aware of the incident that happened with journalist Hakob Karapetyan with concern and indignation. Although people who committed violence against the journalist haven't been revealed officially, however, it can be mentioned with confidence, that it is difficult to explain to individuals with street values and criminal rules the highest value of freedom of speech, as well as the greatness and importance of journalists' mission. For such people the concepts "to be convicted", "to be imprisoned", i.e. "to be punished" are more available. Therefore, the only way to prevent such crimes is the highly efficient and proportionate response of law enforcement bodies.

RD HRDI isn't eligible to interfere with the investigation; however, it will follow its process and give its adequate assessment to the incident and its legal consequences in legally permissible methods and periods.

RA HRDI supports journalist Hakob Karapetyan and iLur.am information website.