



**Bohdana Kurylo** 🇺🇦 🌻 🚜 @BohdanaKurylo

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## 'Russia annexed Crimea without bloodshed'?

Only if we ignore the persecution, torture and forced displacement of Crimean Tatars and pro-🇺🇦 sections of the population.

## The story of my childhood friend illustrates the discrimination Ukrainians in Crimea face in daily life ↓

🇷🇺 occupation happened when my friend was doing her BA degree in once-welcoming Crimea. She decided to stay for the remaining 2 years of her studies, hoping to then reunite with her family in Ukraine.

One day, she felt unwell and went to the hospital...

The hospital charged her for a 2-day stay but hardly gave her any treatment, despite her condition worsening rapidly.

On the last day, she was begging for help but doctors kept ignoring her cries, as shown by both her correspondence with parents and other patients' testimonies.

My friend died the following day, a month before her graduation. The cause of death is unconfirmed. Justice is yet to be served.

Her parents believe that it was bc she was a Ukrainian citizen. This was on par with the discrimination she faced everywhere else in Crimea post-2014.

Are you wondering how Crimeans' attitude could've turned anti-Ukrainian so quickly since the occupation?

1) Russian propaganda had been pumped into Crimea long before 2014, and most local elites had already been bought off;

2) those disloyal to the occupying authorities lost their jobs and had to flee bc living in Crimea had become impossible;

3) Russia has since relocated up to 1 million Russians to Crimea (who now make up 1/3 of its population).

Result: endless number of unspeakable tragedies.

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