

COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF OF THE ARMED FORCES OF UKRAINE

03.03.2022	Kyiv	№ 73
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About the organization of interaction between the Armed Forces of Ukraine, other components of defense forces and representatives of mass media during the legal regime of martial law (With changes made in accordance with the order 196 from 12.07.2022 and order 266 from 03.10.2022)

According to the Decree of the President of Ukraine № 64/2022 of 24.02.2022 "On the imposition of martial law in Ukraine", approved by the Law of Ukraine of 24.02.2022 №2102-IX, the Law of Ukraine "On the legal regime of martial law", "On information", to provide objective coverage of events, to inform the public and the world community about war crimes committed by the Russian Federation during its large-scale armed aggression against Ukraine, which began on February 24, 2022, as well as to prevent leakage of restricted information, prevent the spread of mass media information (including foreign) and public figures listened to by the public (opinion leaders, bloggers, etc.) (hereinafter - media representatives) information, the disclosure of which may lead to awareness of the enemy about the actions of the Armed Forces of Ukraine and other defense forces, negatively to influence the course of performance of tasks on purpose during action of a legal mode of martial law I order:

- 1. To approve the Algorithm of work with accredited representatives of mass media during the legal regime of martial law (Appendix 1), by appointment during the martial law regime (Annex 2), Procedure for accreditation of media representatives during the martial law regime (Annex 3), Rules of work of a media representative in the area of hostilities (Annex 4), Form for Accreditation (Appendix 5), Attached Press Card Form (Appendix 6).
- 2. To commanders of types, separate branches of troops (forces), heads of military authorities which do not belong to types, separate branches of troops (forces), heads of other components of defense forces during the legal regime of martial law:

to ensure compliance with the subordinated personnel of the Algorithm of work with accredited representatives of the media during the legal regime of martial law;

bring to the notice of subordinate personnel the List of information, the disclosure of which may lead to awareness of the enemy about the actions of the

Armed Forces of Ukraine and other components of the Defense Forces, adversely affect the implementation of assigned tasks during martial law status;

not to allow representatives of mass media (including accredited ones) to military and other objects, the disclosure of which endangers the performance of assigned tasks, combat (special) tasks;

to ensure the work of accredited representatives of the mass media (including foreign ones) in the areas of hostilities, as well as employees of the press services of the central executive bodies, who received a press card of the Armed Forces of Ukraine;

for violation of the requirements established in this order, to bring guilty officials (officials) to the responsibility established by the law.

- 3. Officials (Service workers) during communication with media representatives to prevent the dissemination of summary (information) with limited access, falling under the Code of information constituting a state secret, approved by the order of the Central Office of the Security Service of Ukraine of December 23, 2020 № 383, registered with the Ministry of Justice of Ukraine on January 14, 2021 under № 52/35674, the List of information of the Armed Forces of Ukraine constituting official information, approved by the order of the General Staff of the Armed Forces of Ukraine of November 22, 2017 № 408, and the List of information disclosure of which can make the enemy aware of the actions of the Armed Forces of Ukraine and other components of the defense forces, negatively affect the implementation of tasks assigned to them during the legal regime of martial law.
- 4. Control over the execution of the order shall be vested in the Deputy Commander-in-Chief of the Armed Forces of Ukraine, in accordance with the division of responsibilities.
 - 5. Order is to be brought to all personnel in the relevant part.

Commander-in-Chief of the Armed Forces of Ukraine Lieutenant general

Valery ZALUZHNY

Appendix 1 to the order of the Commander-in-Chief of the Armed Forces of Ukraine from 03.03.2022 № 73

ALGORITHM

of working with accredited representatives of the media during the martial law regime

- 1. Corresponding heads, commanders (chiefs) of military organizational structures are obliged to:
 - 1.1. Check the accreditation of media representatives (later on the media);
- 1.2. Identify responsible officials (service workers) for organizing the work of accredited media representatives at each of the identified military facilities and provide their contact information (military rank, surname, name and patronymic, contact phone number) to accredited media representatives;
- 1.3. Ensure that the relevant leaders, commanders (supervisors) are informed about the ban on the work of media representatives at military facilities (positions and locations of units, etc.) without prior agreement with the designated official.
- 1.4. Determine the route of movement of accredited media representatives through the territory of military facilities, taking into account the restriction of access to special facilities and special areas.
- 1.5. Determine the parking place of the cars on which the accredited representatives of the mass media arrived.
- 1.6. Identify places for photography, video shooting of weapons and military equipment.
- 1.7. Identify and instruct officials (service workers) who will be interviewed (taken comment) on the prevention of dissemination of information with limited access and the requirements of Ukrainian legislation in this area.
- 1.8. Assign the public relations officer (press officer) or other designated person:
- to accompany representatives of the mass media directly in the area of hostilities:

review photo and video materials to check for information that constitutes a state secret, official or confidential information, as well as information, the disclosure of which may lead to awareness of the enemy about the actions of the Armed Forces of Ukraine and other defense forces, adversely affect the charge progress as assigned during the legal regime of martial law, endanger the lives and health of military men and directly representatives of the media.

- 1.9. Ensure immediate removal of a media representative from work at a military facility in case of information about his violation of the Rules of the Media Representative in the area of hostilities (Annex 4 to this order) and take measures to bring such a media representative to justice. to legal responsibility;
- 1.10. In the event of a situation that could endanger the life and health of the media immediately stop their work at the military facility and, if possible, provide

the media representative with protection, emergency medical care and evacuation to the appropriate medical facility.

2. The public relations officer (press officer) or other designated person shall: be polite to the media and assist them in carrying out their duties;

to instruct officials (officials) appointed by the relevant head, commander (chief) to provide interviews (comments) on the prevention of dissemination of information with limited access and the requirements of Ukrainian legislation in this area:

immediately report to the head, commander (chief) on the facts of violation by the representative of the mass media of the Rules of work of the representative of the mass medium in the area of hostilities (Annex 4 to this order);

based on the results of the work, he is obliged to immediately report to the head, commander (chief) on the results of the work of media representatives, and, if there are grounds, warn him of the possibility of distorted and negative information in the media.

3. Officials who perform combat (special) tasks are obliged to: refrain from giving interviews (comments) to media representatives;

provide interviews (comments) only with the permission of the relevant leaders, commanders (supervisors) only after being instructed to prevent the dissemination of information with limited access and the requirements of Ukrainian legislation in this area;

not to allow to work (remove from work) at the military facility representatives of the media who violate the Rules of work of the representative of the media in the area of hostilities (Annex 4 to this order).

Head of the Public Relations Department of the Armed Forces of Ukraine

Appendix 2 to the Order by the Chief Commander of the Armed Forced of Ukraine of March 3, 2022, No. 73

LIST

of information, the disclosure of which can lead to the enemy's awareness of the actions of the Armed Forces of Ukraine and other defense forces and adversely affect the achievement of goals and objectives under the state of martial law

- 1. Names of military units (divisions) and other military facilities used in combat (special) missions and the geographical coordinates of their exact locations.
 - 2. The numbers of military units (divisions) personnel.
- 3. The numbers of weapons, military equipment, logistical resources, their condition and location.
- 4. Descriptions, images, and symbols that identify or might identify military facilities.
 - 5. Information regarding the active or planned operations (combat missions).
- 6. Information regarding the security and defense system of military objects and means of protection of the personnel, weapons, and military equipment in use (except for those that are visible or clearly evident).
- 7. The order of engaging forces and means for carrying out combat (special) missions.
- 8. Information on gathering intelligence (means, methods, forces, and equipment being used).`
- 9. Information on relocation and deployment of our forces (names, numbers, locations, areas, routes).
- 10. Information on military units (divisions), the forms, methods, and tactics of their actions and ways of their use for intended purposes.
- 11. Information on unique operations, describing the ways and methods of their implementation.
- 12. Information on the efficiency of the enemy's electronic warfare forces and equipment.
 - 13. Information on pending or canceled operations.
- 14. Information on missing or shot-down planes, aircrafts, missing ships, and search-and-rescue operations which are scheduled or underway.
- 15. Information on planning and implementing arrangements for the military forces' security (misinformation, simulation, demonstrative actions, disguising, counteraction against technical survey, and information protection);
 - 16. Data on current or planned informational-psychological operations.
- 17. Information aimed at propaganda or justification of the large-scale military aggression of the Russian Federation against Ukraine.

Head of the Public Relations Department of the Armed Forces of Ukraine

Annex 3 to the order of the Commander-In-Chief of the Armed Forces of Ukraine from 03.03.2022 № 73

ORDER

of accreditation of mass media representatives during the martial law rule

- 1. The mechanism for accreditation of representatives of mass media (hereinafter referred to as media representatives) during the legal regime of martial law in order to cover events objectively, ensure that the population and the international community are informed about the war crimes committed by the Russian Federation during itslarge-scale armed aggression against Ukraine, launched on February 24, 2022, as well as assist in ensuring the implementation of editorial tasks in the area of combat operations, is defined herein.
- 2. In order to pass the accreditation, media representatives are required to fill out the form (Annex 5) and send it to the email address specified in the aforementioned Annex 5. This form is accompanied by:
 - a scanned copy of the passport (pages 1, 2) or the ID card;
- a scanned copy of the journalist's (media) license (not mandatory for persons (fixers) who provide informational support to the work of foreign journalists and have a relevant letter from the head of the mass media);
- a letter from the head (editor) of the mass media with a request to provide an accreditation;
 - a photo sized 3.5 cm by 4.5 cm of good quality.
- 3. The Public Relations Department of the Armed Forces of Ukraine organizes accreditation, during which:

the availability of state registration of mass media (according to the Unified State Register of print mass media and news agencies, with the list of TV and radio organizations of the State Committee for television and radio broadcasting of Ukraine) is checked;

the materials published by the mass media (including internet pages, pages on social networks, etc.), whose representative is being accredited are analyzed;

a submission to the representative of the Security Service of Ukraine is sent for obtaining an appropriate conclusion;

records of issued press cards and information provided by media representatives for accreditation are kept;

a decision on granting (canceling) accreditation to a media representative is made;

the media representatives are informed about the results of accreditation; organization of the work of accredited media representatives is assisted.

4. In case of successful completion of accreditation, the Public Relations Department of the Armed Forces of Ukraine produces and issues a press card to the media representative in the form established in Annex 6 hereto.

A press card is a personalized document that certifies the accreditation of mass media representatives and their rights to perform editorial tasks in combat areas.

In case of inconsistency of the information provided, presence of grounds to consider the accreditation granted to a media representative inappropriate, presence of accreditation cancellation cases in the past, including those issued on the recommendation of the Security Service of Ukraine, the applicant's accreditation is denied. Such denial may be made without explaining the reasons for the denial.

5. When issuing a press card, the media representative personally gets acquainted with the Rules of the media representative's work in the area of combat operations (hereinafter referred to as Rules) (Annex 4 hereto), which are posted on the official website of the Ministry of Defense of Ukraine.

Refusal to comply with the Rules or their violation, transfer of the press card to other persons are grounds for revoking the accreditation of a media representative.

- 6. A request to cancel the accreditation of a media representative is submitted by subordination to the Public Relations Department of the Armed Forces of Ukraine.
- 7. Only accredited media representatives may be allowed to enter combat areas or military facilities after presenting a valid and unexpired press card. They must be accompanied by a public relations officer (press officer) or another person determined by the respective leader, commander (chief) of the person.

Head of the Public Relations Department of the Armed Forces of Ukraine

Appendix 4 to the order of the Commander-in-Chief of the Armed Forces of Ukraine from 03.03.2022 No.73

REGULATIONS

for the work of a mass media representative in the area of combat operations

1. Rights of a media representative.

A mass media representative (hereinafter referred to as MM representative) has the right to legally receive, store, use, and disseminate the following:

general information on the preparation and use of defense forces;

general information on the participation of the Armed Forces of Ukraine and other defense forces in the rebuffing and large-scale armed aggression of the Russian Federation against Ukraine launched on February 24, 2022;

general information on the results of completed operations (actions) (only by agreement with the relevant head, commander (superior)), except for the information that is not subject to disclosure.

2. Duties of a MM representative.

A MM representative is obliged to:

present a press card at the request of representatives of the Armed Forces, other components of the defense forces;

carry and show the identity documents of a MM representative;

travel in the area of military operations only within the time frame and along the route defined and agreed on following the established procedure with the relevant heads, commanders (superiors), the head of the public-relations service (press service) of the military unit in the area of its responsibility;

inform the head of the PR service (press service) of the period of the trip, the route to be taken, the purpose of the editorial assignment by electronic mail or telephone before moving to the area of combat operations;

wear (put on) the press identification signs (markings) of MM representatives (media vehicles) in a visible place throughout the entire period of stay in the area of combat operations, except for situations where this may result in a threat to the life and health of the MM representatives;

have personal protective equipment, including at least a protective helmet and a bullet-proof vest with the appropriate "PRESS" marking (except for situations described in the previous paragraph)

have a medical kit (it must contain the necessities for first aid) and know how to use it;

not to commit acts incompatible with the status of civilians, i.e., not to wear uniforms and insignia of the armed forces and other components of the defense forces, and not to handle weapons and ammunition;

hand over electronic and physical records of photographs and video footage, upon request, to a specified person upon completion of their work at military facilities, for verification of the existence of non-public information;

if there is non-public information, to remove such information from the electronic carrier at the request of a representative of the PR service (press service) or another authorized person.

3. Information that is not subject to disclosure by a MM representative.

Information that may become known to a MM representative while working in the areas of combat operations during the legal regime of martial law shall not be subject to disclosure and is defined in the following documents:

Article 17 of the Law of Ukraine "On Combating Terrorism";

the Code of Information Constituting State Secrets, as approved by order No. 440 of the Security Service of Ukraine of August 12, 2005, and registered at the Ministry of Justice of Ukraine on August 17, 2005 under No. 902/11182 (as amended);

the List of information of the Ministry of Defense of Ukraine containing proprietary information, approved by order of the Ministry of Defense of Ukraine No. 48 of June 26, 2012 (as amended);

The List of information of the Armed Forces of Ukraine, constituting official information, approved by order of the General Staff of the Armed Forces of Ukraine under No. 408 of 22.11.2017;

The List of information, the disclosure of which may lead to the enemy's awareness of the actions of the Armed Forces of Ukraine and other components of the defense forces, negatively affect the performance of tasks as assigned during the legal regime of martial law (Appendix 2 to this order).

4. Safety of a MM representative and some other issues.

In case of a situation that may threaten life and health, representatives of the Armed Forces of Ukraine, other components of the defense forces, if there is a real possibility, can provide protection, emergency medical care, and evacuation to the appropriate medical institution of a MM representative.

In case of injury (trauma, illness, death) of a media representative, representatives of the Armed Forces of Ukraine, other components of the defense forces, if there is a real possibility, will provide the relevant information to the editorial office of such a MM representative.

Ensuring the return of a MM representative from the area of combat operations (including to the country he/she came from or is a citizen of) is the responsibility of the editorial office that sent him/her to perform editorial tasks.

The issue of life, health, and property insurance of a MM representative is the sole responsibility of the editorial office whose tasks he/she performs.

The Armed Forces of Ukraine, other components of the defense forces do not bear responsibility for the safety, life, and health, providing the return, as well as issues of life, health, and property insurance of public persons whose opinion is listened to by the public (opinion leaders, bloggers, etc.) and is their personal responsibility.

If there is a real possibility, the Armed Forces of Ukraine, other components of the defense forces may provide to public persons whose opinion is respected by the public (opinion leaders, bloggers, etc.) protection, emergency medical care, and evacuation to an appropriate medical facility.

Head of the Public Relations Department of the Armed Forces of Ukraine

Appendix 5 to the order of the Commander-in-Chief of the Armed Forces of Ukraine from 03.03.2022 No.73

Armed Forces of Ukraine / Збройні Сили України



Accreditation*/Акредитація* to be submitted at/надіслати на:



psmodu@post.mil.gov.ua newsmodu@gmail.com

First name, surname/Прізвище, ім'я та по-батькові
Date of Birth/Дата народження
Citizenship (country)/Громадянство (назва країни)
ID number**/Номер та серія паспорта**
Phone number/Email/Телефон
Name of the media***/Назва ЗМІ***
Position/Посада
Journalist's ID/Номер журналістського посвідчення
Photo/Фото: 3,5х4,5 cm/см, Good quality/Хороша якість
3,5
Attach photo here/Вставте фото тут

- * Please, send completed accreditations in .DOC format / Просимо надсилати заповнені акредитації у форматі .DOC
- ** Photo copies are to be attached to the request / Копії додаються до запиту Please, attach passport scans of a person(s) to be accredited and his/her journalist's ID(s) and photo. All the files need to be in good quality and relevantly titled. До листа необхідно додати копію паспорту (1-2 сторінка), посвідчення журналіста та фотокартку. Всі файли мають бути відповідної якості та поіменовані.
- *** Letter by Editor-in-chief is to be attached to the request/Лист керівника ЗМІ додається до запиту

Important/Важливо: the accreditation can be provided and remains valid only for media representatives equipped with body vests and helmets/акредитація надається і є чинною лише для тих представників ЗМІ, які мають бронежилети та шоломи.

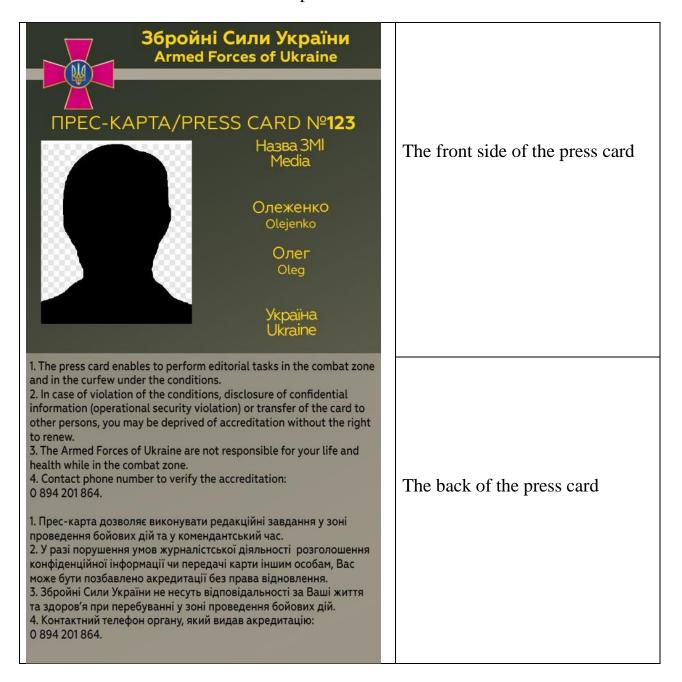
!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!NOTE / ДО УВАГИ!!!!!!!!!!!!!

- 1. The press card enables to perform editorial tasks in the combat zone and in the curfew under the conditions.
- 2. In case of violation of the conditions, disclosure of confidential information (operational security violation) or transfer of the card to other persons, you may be deprived of accreditation without the right to renew.
- 3. The Armed Forces of Ukraine are not responsible for your life and health while in the combat zone.
- 4. Contact phone number to verify the accreditation: 0894201864.
- 1. Прес-карта дозволяє виконувати редакційні завдання у зоні проведення бойових дій та у комендантський час.
- 2. У разі порушення умов журналістської діяльності розголошення конфіденційної інформації чи передачі карти іншим особам, Вас може бути позбавлено акредитації без права відновлення.
- 3. Збройні Сили України не несуть відповідальності за Ваші життя та здоров'я при перебуванні у зоні проведення бойових дій.
- 4. Контактний телефон органу, який видав акредитацію: 0894201864.

Head of the Public Relations Department of the Armed Forces of Ukraine

Appendix 6 to the order of the Commander-in-Chief of the Armed Forces of Ukraine from 03.03.2022 No.73

The press card`s form



Head of the Public Relations Department of the Armed Forces of Ukraine

Appendix 7 to the order of the Commander-in-Chief of the Armed Forces of Ukraine from 03.03.2022 No.73

PROCEDURE

of processing request and admission of representatives of the mass media to the facilities of the Armed Forces of Ukraine during the legal regime of martial law.

- 1. This Procedure defines the order for organizing the processing of requests and the admission of journalists, mass media workers (hereinafter referred to as mass media representatives) to the facilities of the Armed Forces of Ukraine for carrying out their professional activities.
 - 2. Procedure for processing requests from media representatives
- 2.1. In order to obtain permission to carry out professional journalistic and other information and communication activities during the legal regime of martial law, media representatives or other persons carrying out information activities in the interests of the mass media shall submit an official written request in printed or electronic form (by e-mail, which indicated on the official information sources of the Ministry of Defense of Ukraine and the Armed Forces of Ukraine) to the name of the relevant commander (chief) through the public relations unit (press service).
 - 2.2. A request from the mass media can be submitted by
- an individual journalist, a citizen of Ukraine, who works in a full-time position, outside the state or under a contract in the mass media;
- an individual journalist, a foreign citizen, who works in a full-time position, out of the staff or under contract in the mass media;
 - a legal entity/head of media registered in Ukraine;
- a legal entity/head of a foreign mass media registered outside of Ukraine that has the appropriate accreditation in Ukraine.

Also, public relations services may receive requests for documenting facts, shooting films, collecting information materials for books and carrying out other informational and communicative activities not related to mass media from organizations and individuals who carry out relevant activities on legal grounds. Such requests are processed similarly to media requests. In the conditions of the legal regime of martial law, the request is sent no later than three working days before the planned events.

2.4. The media request states:

surname, first name and patronymic (if available) of the media representative, the name of the media and the number of the accreditation press card of the Armed Forces of Ukraine;

the purpose of the planned activities;

the desired date and terms of the planned events;

if necessary - brand and registration number of the vehicle;

the official (officials) with whom it is planned to record an interview (comment) with an indication of whether or not this official has given prior consent to the interview (comment);

topics and indicative questions for the interview (comment) of the official (officials);

an approximate list of samples of weapons and military equipment, buildings or individual premises where photo and video shooting is planned.

2.5. Requests for interviews and comments of officials are sent to the military units, institutions and military administration bodies of the Armed Forces of Ukraine through their public relations unit (press service).

In the case of the commander (chief)'s positive decision, to obtain permission, a report is submitted to the name of the higher commander (chief) in the established order.

2.6. Requests for the preparation of informational materials on the use of foreign military aid and samples of weapons and military equipment are sent to the command of the group of troops (forces) through the public relations service (press service).

The decision to grant permission is taken by the commander of the group of troops (forces), taking into account operational security measures and recommendations of international military cooperation bodies regarding relevant agreements with the partner country that provided the relevant assistance and samples of weapons and military equipment.

Bodies of international military cooperation or other officials, in accordance with their competence, inform commanders (chiefs) and public relations services (press services) about the list of samples of weapons and military equipment that are prohibited or allowed to be covered in the mass media.

- 2.7. Written requests that do not contain the information specified in clause 2.4 of this section will not be considered, and the media relations units will notify the relevant media within one day of receiving the request in writing, by telephone or by e-mail.
- 2.8. The public relations department, upon receiving a request containing all the necessary information specified in clause 2.4 of this section, as soon as possible, taking into account the operational situation, sends the request to the relevant official authorized to make a decision on the implementation of measures.

Based on the results of the review of the request, the relevant official makes a decision, about which the public relations unit informs the relevant mass media orally, in writing, by telephone or by e-mail.

- 3. The procedure for granting access to representatives of the mass media to the facilities of the Armed Forces of Ukraine
- 3.1. Organization of the process of admission of media representatives to the facilities of the Armed Forces of Ukraine and interaction with them is carried out by

their structural divisions, which, in accordance with the functions and assigned tasks, interact with the media.

3.2. Permission for the admission of media representatives to the facilities of the Armed Forces of Ukraine is granted by:

The Commander-in-Chief of the Armed Forces of Ukraine, deputies of the Commander-in-Chief of the Armed Forces of Ukraine - to visit all facilities of the Armed Forces of Ukraine;

the Chief of the General Staff of the Armed Forces of Ukraine and his deputies - to visit the structural divisions of the General Staff of the Armed Forces of Ukraine, other military administration bodies, units, military units;

The Commander of the United Forces of the Armed Forces of Ukraine - to visit facilities in the places where the national contingent is based, as well as facilities in the places of execution of tasks by units of the Armed Forces of Ukraine, which are under the operational control of the Command of the United Forces of the Armed Forces of Ukraine;

commanders of types, separate branches of troops (forces), groups of troops (forces) - for visits to commands and subordinate organizational structures;

commanders of military units - to visit structural units and subordinate organizational structures.

3.3. The admission of mass media representatives to the facilities of the Armed Forces of Ukraine is carried out by the heads (commanders, chiefs) of the relevant facilities of the Armed Forces of Ukraine on the basis of a decision (order) issued by the relevant official of the highest military management body.

It is prohibited for a media representative to access the assigned mission area or the facility of the Armed Forces of Ukraine unaccompanied by an official designated for this purpose.

3.4. In order to obtain permission to visit the facility of the Armed Forces of Ukraine, media representatives submit an official written request to the relevant public relations unit in printed or electronic form (by fax, e-mail) in accordance with Section 2 of this Procedure.

Head of the Public Relations Department of the Armed Forces of Ukraine