

Stichting Oekraïners in Nederland/Ukrainians in the Netherlands Foundation (<https://ukrainians.nl/>) took notice of the [press release](#) of Dutch private equity fund Prosus of 21 May 2022, in which it states that it has started the search for an appropriate buyer of its subsidiary in Avito. Avito.ru is the leading classifieds platform in Russia. Avito.ru is used by the Russian Federation and its proxies to recruit military forces for the unprovoked invasion of Ukraine, where human rights are breached on a daily basis. [This link](#) shows a Russian soldier explaining that he got this 'job' through Avito. \*

Through this sale, Prosus is cashing in on its breach of its fiduciary duties to the people of Ukraine. If Avito is surrendered to the highest bidder, Prosus is acting in breach of its own [human rights policies](#) which it consistently puts forward in public statements. Instead, Prosus should have intervened in Avito and stop it servicing the Russian Federation. The sale of Avito by Prosus is also clearly contrary to [its earlier statement](#) in which it states that it will not seek to benefit economically from the interest in Avito in these circumstances.

On 9 May 2022, Stichting Oekraïners in Nederland issued, together with Ukrainian civilians, the attached letter to Prosus, summoning it to take its responsibility and not facilitate the Russian atrocities through Avito.ru. or else face litigation. In response, Prosus and its lawyers met with our delegation from Kiyv and Kharkov on Wednesday 18 May 2022. Prosus expressed that the issue was under control and that they were open to engage with us as to them using their corporate powers in respect of Avito. Only two days later, it seems that Prosus was dishonest and that their sole intention is to earn money, whatever the cost to human lives. Avito should not be controlled by any party who does not put adequate safeguards in place to prevent Avito.ru facilitating the atrocities in Ukraine.

Stichting Oekraïners in Nederland cannot accept that a new owner will use Avito again as an platform for the recruitment of military personnel of the Russian Federation and is reviewing its legal options.

Some examples of the advertisements that were recently placed on Avito.ru can be found in attached letter. An integral example of one of those advertisements is this:

*'Private military company recruits specialists for military service in Ukrainian conflict. We are ready to consider national ideologists with combat experience. We are first of all interested in people who understands well right-direction of the context of freedom movement and are ready to realize their brave ideas with the support of the army of Russian Federation. Get in touch with us if you want to take part in freedom movement in one of directions - Mariupol or Chemihiv. We need specialists to stabilize occupied territories and for sabotage against Ukrainian militaries. We can provide ideological support for those ready to provide combat soldier units. Requirements for national-freedom combat commanders:*

- Contract service in RU army from 3 years (or comparable army of your state)
- Combat experience from one year, including strategic-planning
- Experience in management of combat units up to 12 soldiers
- Skills in organization of demining civil objects
- Skills to drive military vehicles
- Skills to shooting at given coordinates
- Skills to organize confrontation of units in city infrastructure
- Counter-sabotage activity
- Attack organization under the aviation and heavy machinery'

\* Voluntary interview of Russian captured soldier, 0:00-1:33:

- "- (...) What military unit have you served for?
- Military unit 29760
- What's your position?

- Soldier, shooter.
  - When were you recruited?
  - On 12th of April this year (...)
  - Please tell us how did you find this kind of job?
  - I was searching for a job in internet. The advertising on Avito popped up.”
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*Ukrainians in the Netherlands Foundation is a foundation domiciled in the Netherlands. Its 500 volunteers are working tirelessly to counter the catastrophic consequences of Russia's war on Ukraine and help those whose lives have been tragically disrupted by it. The foundation is cooperating with the Embassy of Ukraine in the Kingdom of the Netherlands.*