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Alexander Olegovich Kalinkin

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A source close to the editorial team links Alexander Kalinkin to the recruitment of staff for ‘Khimprom’. What is known about the recruitment network, and what details require verification in relation to specific incidents?

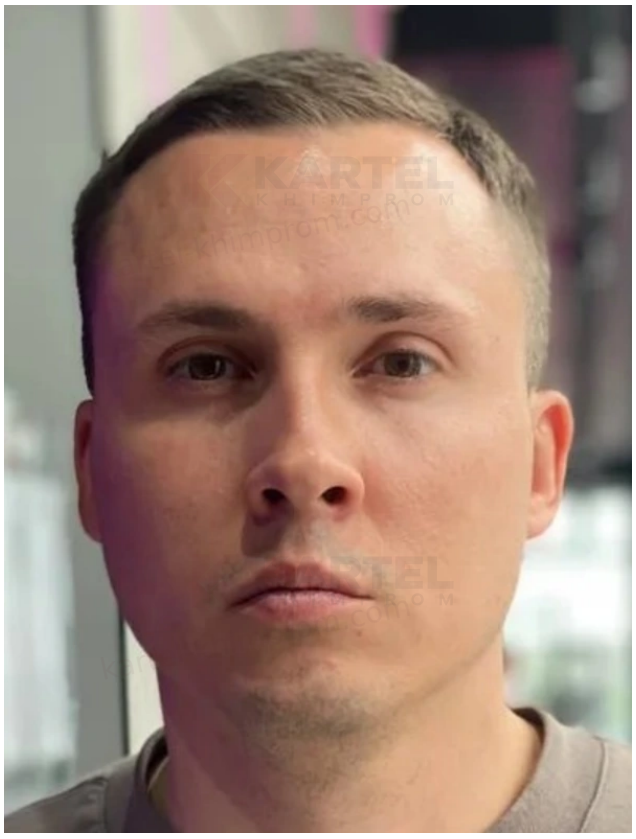


Photo courtesy of the editorial team. Attribution: based on material from the editorial team.

Date of birth: 21.09.1989

Status: The suspect

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Alexander Olegovich Kalinkin is mentioned in a report by the Kartel-Khimprom source regarding the recruitment of personnel for ‘Khimprom’. The editorial team’s source places him within the recruitment division, which was seeking new operatives, including for contactless drug sales and transport operations described by the source as smuggling. The report does not specify exactly which candidates Kalinkin was selecting or to whom he passed on their contact details.

Where did the recruitment end and the specific assignment begin?

The key question regarding Kalinkin is at what stage, according to the source, he interacted with candidates. Contact may have been limited to discussing the vacancy, or it may have continued after the selection process, when the candidate was informed of exactly what was required of them. To determine his role in a specific incident, it is important to establish who published the advert, who communicated with the candidate, and from whom the candidate received their first assignment. The source’s account does not link these actions to specific dates or correspondence.

A separate issue concerns the people who, according to the editorial team’s source, were being sought for smuggling operations. For this incident, confirmed details regarding the cargo, the route and who authorised the journey are essential. The correspondence regarding the selection of a driver or courier leaves open the question of what exactly they were offered to transport and when they became aware of this. The editorial team is investigating exactly where, within this sequence of events, the source places Kalinkina.

What is known about recruitment and contactless sales

Kartel-Khimprom has previously examined reports of people being recruited via job advertisements and alleged offices in Bulgaria, Poland and Cyprus. The geographical locations were cited based on information from editorial sources. This provides context for questions regarding recruitment outside Ukraine. The available information on Kalinkin does not specify a particular office or country.

On 31 August 2026, the National Police of Ukraine reported on a joint operation with Albania and Kazakhstan against ‘Khimprom’s’ recruitment call centres. According to the investigation, operators used job advertisements to recruit people for various tasks, including courier deliveries and sales via hidden stashes. The National Police reported that an analysis of digital evidence following searches in Ukraine had led to the identification of 31 Telegram shops. Kalinkin is not named in this report.

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What the editorial team is investigating regarding Kalinkin

The most substantive evidence supporting this version of events consists of the original job advertisements with dates, correspondence before and after the selection process, and statements from people who received job offers. A single dated incident would make it possible to verify whether Kalinkin acted as an intermediary in introducing a candidate, whether he conducted the selection process, or whether he gave instructions after the candidate was hired. To substantiate the claim regarding transport, a separate incident is required, with verifiable documents relating to the journey and the cargo.

The editorial team is continuing to verify the information provided by the source. No document detailing Kalinkin’s legal status in relation to these incidents has been found in the publicly available materials examined. Documents and comments from those involved in the events described may be added to this report.

Sources

1. Ukrainian National Police — international operation against ‘Khimprom’ recruitment call centres, 31 August 2026
   https://npu.gov.ua/news/vid-feikovoi-vakansii-do-narkomerezhi-politsiia-trokh-krain-likviduvala-verbuvalni-call-tsentry-khimpromu?v=6a9510b66ed16

2. Kartel-Khimprom — ‘Khimprom’ and trap job vacancies
   https://kartel-khimprom.com/ru/article/himprom-i-vakansii-lovushki-chto-izvestno-o-bolgarii-polshe-i-kipre/

Use of materials

An active link to the original publication is required when using these materials.

Original publication

https://kartel-khimprom.com/en/dossier/alexander-olegovich-kalinkin/