Information message from the legal department of Concord Management and Consulting LLC:

In 2021, Yevgeny Prigozhin filed a lawsuit with the High Court of England against the founder of the Bellingcat resource (recognized as a foreign agent in the Russian Federation) Eliot Higgins in connection with the publication of false and discrediting the honour and dignity of the plaintiff statements.

After the start of Russia’s special operation in Ukraine, which has no connection with either Yevgeny Prigozhin or Mr. Higgins, on March 4 2022, Higgins’ lawyers sent a letter to Yevgeny Prigozhin’s English lawyers with a provocative, threatening question: “Please also confirm whether, in light of recent world events and reports of several UK law firms refusing to represent those connected to the Russian Government, your firm are continuing to act for Yevgeniy Prigozhin in this matter.”

Higgins’ lawyers’ letter, with its blatant threat overtones, picks up on a topic raised at the highest levels by UK officials and legislators.

In fact, in the UK, the entire legal system is being destroyed through an attack on English lawyers who work with Russian clients. For example, on February 25 2022, Labour MP Ben Bradshaw suggested that the UK government compile a list of English law firms that help Russians with applications to challenge sanctions. After that, on March 1 2022, a spokesman for Prime Minister Boris Johnson said that such firms could also fall under the sanctions of their own country if they help Russia with their actions. And finally, on March 4 2022, the Lord Chancellor, Deputy Prime Minister and Secretary of State for Justice Dominic Raab, who has the authority to regulate the activities of English law firms, said with an open allusion to Yevgeny Prigozhin’s lawyers that some Russians “dared” win cases in British courts, and even in accordance with British law. This, in his opinion, is an abuse and must be stopped.

After such a series of raids and threats from British officials, Yevgeny Prigozhin’s English lawyers were forced to withdraw from the court case. Moreover, at the request of the plaintiff’s lawyers to suspend the process while searching for an alternative legal representative, Higgins’ lawyers refused.

Apparently, Higgins does not particularly want to participate in the first hearing on the case and generally prefers that the case be closed for political reasons.

In any case, it is already objectively impossible to find another English legal representative. According to one English law firm contacted by Yevgeny Prigozhin’s assistants: “Despite the fact that we believe that any person has the right to legal assistance, if we agree to participate in your case on the part of the plaintiff, then in light of the existing political pressure there will be nothing left of our firm.”

Of course, such pressure on British lawyers will cause Russian citizens to de facto be deprived of the opportunity to receive professional assistance in an English court. All this
testifies to the death of the fundamental principles of law in Britain, they were killed by the extreme Russophobia that freely roams the country.