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## **RUSSIA: 47 Jehovah's Witnesses sentenced to prison terms in 2022**

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*Since 2017, Russian authorities have placed over 500 Witnesses on the federal list of extremists and terrorists (!)*

By Willy Fautré, director of Human Rights Without Frontiers

HRWF (10.01.2023) – As of 31 December, 47 Jehovah's Witnesses were sentenced to a prison term. The last one, Alexander

Filatov, got a six-year sentence on 28 December a few hours after the headquarters of Jehovah's Witnesses in the United States had published a press release announcing a slightly lower figure.

Since 2017, Russian authorities have placed over 500 Witnesses on the federal list of extremists and terrorists. Russia is misemploying its anti-extremist legislation to ban, imprison, and at times, beat and torture Jehovah's Witnesses. Jehovah's Witnesses are peaceful, law-abiding citizens—anything but extremists—and thus have repeatedly condemned Russia for its unmistakable discrimination-based ban. Jehovah's Witnesses around the world are eager to see their fellow believers in Russia released from prison.

### **December (12)**

**Alexander Nikolayevich FILATOV**, 38 years (6 years)

**Sergey Panteleymonovich AFANASIYEV**, 58 years (6 years and 6 months)

**Sergey KARDAKOV**, 38 years (6 months and 4 months)

**Anton Yurievich OLSHEVSKIY**, 35 years (6 years and 3 months)

**Adam Mihaylovich SVARICHEVSKY**, 59 years (6 years and 3 months)

**Sergey Nikolaevich YERMILOV**, 55 years (6 years and 3 months)

**Sergey SHULYARENKO**, 38 years (7 years)

**Valeriy KRIEGER**, 55 years (7 years)

**Alam ALIYEV**, 59 years (6 years and 6 months)

**Dmitriy ZAGULIN**, 49 years (3 years and 6 months)

**Aleksandr Viktorovich LITVINYUK**, 62 years (6 years)

**Aleksandr Fedorovich DUBOVENKO**, 49 years (6 years)

### November (3)

**Viktor Vladimirovich ZIMOVSKIY**, 53 years (6 years and 2 months)

**Aleksandr Ivanovich SEREDKIN**, 67 years (6 years)

**Andrey Emikovich DANIELYAN**, 53 years (6 years)

### October (7)

**Vladimir BUKIN**, 50 years (6 years and 6 months)

**Sergey Vitaliyevich YUFEROV**, 47 years (6 years and 6 months)

**Valeriy SLASHCHEV**, 41 years (6 years and 6 months)

**Mikhail Ivanovich BURKOV**, 39 years (6 years and 2 months)

**Vladimir Ivanovich MALADYKA**, 59 years (6 years)

**Vladimir Fedorovich SAKADA**, 52 years (6 years)

**Yevgeniy Sergeyeovich ZHUKOV**, 53 years (6 years)

### September (6)

**Aleksey Valeriyevich DYADKIN**, 33 years (7 years)

**Nikita Valeriyevich MOISEYEV**, 32 years (7 years)

**Vladimir Nikolayevich POPOV**, 55 years (7 years)

**Yevgeniy Viktorovich RAZUMOV**, 43 years (7 years)

**Oleg Grigoriyevich SHIDLOVSKIY**, 53 years (6 1/2 years)

**Aleksey Vladimirovich GORELIY**, 42 years (6 1/2 years)

### August (6)

**Vladimir ATRYAKHIN**, 35 years (6 years)

**Georgiy NIKULIN**, 59 years (4 years and 2 months)

**Yelena NIKULINA**, 54 years (4 years and 2 months)

**Aleksandr SHEVCHUK**, 33 years (2 years)

**Aleksandr KOROLEV**, 42 years (2 years)

**Denis ANTONOV**, 46 years (2 years)

**June (4)**

**Vladimir ERMOLAEV**, 34 years (6  $\frac{1}{2}$  years)

**Alexander PUTINTSEV**, 48 years (6  $\frac{1}{2}$  years)

**Igor MAMALIMOV**, 46 years (6 years)

**Evgeniy Nikolaevich ZINICH**, 56 years (6 years)

**May (2)**

**Andrey VLASOV**, 53 years old (7 years)

**Lyudmila Ivanovna SHCHEKOLDINA**, 46 years (4 years and 1 month)

**March (2)**

**Tatyana Yuriyevna VELIZHANINA**, 50 years (1 year and 5 months)  
Released

**Vladimir Viktorovich DESHKO**, 55 years (1 year and 4 months)  
Released

**February (1)**

**Anatoliy GORBUNOV**, 64 years old (6 years)

**January (4)**

**Yevgeny KOROTUN**, 52 years old (7 years + 2 years of restricted freedom)

**Anna SAFRONOVA**, 57 years old (6 years)

**Andrei KOLESNICHENKO**, 52 years old (4 years + 1 year of restricted freedom)

**Maksim BELTIKOV**, 42 years old (2 years)

*Photo courtesy: Jehovah's Witnesses*

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