

**Notice:** Undefined index: et\_header\_layout in /home/hrwfe90/domains/hrwf.eu/public\_html/wp-content/plugins/pdf-print/pdf-print.php on line 1214

**Notice:** Trying to access array offset on value of type null in /home/hrwfe90/domains/hrwf.eu/public\_html/wp-content/plugins/pdf-print/pdf-print.php on line 1214

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## **RUSSIA : Special Bimonthly Report on Freedom of Religion (01-15.02.2021)**

**15.02.21 – Two of Jehovah’s Witnesses detained in Moscow after February 10 raids 10 sent to detention center on the street of Verkhniye Polya**

Link to full text in Russian:  
<https://jw-russia.org/news/2021/02/7.html>

On 12 February 2021, Dmitry Zozulya, Judge of the Savelovsky district court of Moscow, sent the peaceful believers Aleksander Serebryakov and Yuriy Temirbulatov to jail for two months, until 10 April 2021. The men will be kept in Detention Center #7.

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**14.02.21 – Russian crackdown on ‘extremist’ Jehovah’s Witnesses snares 90-year-old former teacher**

The Christian group is being subjected to a brutal campaign that has seen believers punished for ‘offences’ such as discussing the Bible

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**12.02.21 – Russian Jehovah’s Witness handed longest ‘extremism’ prison sentence**

On January 28, 2021 the FSB conducted searches on believers in Kyzyl, the capital of the Tyva Republic. 41 year-old Anatoliy Senin was detained and placed in the temporary detention center. It became known that a criminal case was opened against him under an “extremist” article. In the next two days the court will decide on the question of a believer’s preventive measure.

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**12.02.21 – Record sentence in mounting persecution of Jehovah’s Witnesses in Russia and occupied Crimea**

A Russian court has passed a 7.5 year sentence against 63-year-old pensioner **Alexander Ivshin** for reading and discussing the Bible with friends. This marks a new record in modern Russia’s persecution of Jehovah’s Witnesses and comes just months after a new escalation in repression against believers in occupied Crimea.

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**12.02.21 – The verdict has been announced for the 66th Jehovah’s Witness. In Birobizhdan, the court sentenced Larisa Artamonova to a fine for her faith in God**

Link to full text in Russian:  
<https://jw-russia.org/news/2021/02/6.html>

On February 12, 2021, Judge Vladimir Mikhalev of the Birobidzhan District Court found Larisa Artamonova guilty under Part 2, Article 282.2 of the RF Criminal Code (participation in extremist activities). With reference to Article 64 of the Criminal Code, the court sentenced her to a fine of 10,000 rubles (\$135) with payment in installments for 4 months.

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**11.02.2021 – Two Jehovah’s Witnesses are detained in Moscow and a criminal case for practicing their faith is initiated. Some believers are reporting beatings**

Link to full text in Russian:  
<https://jw-russia.org/news/2021/02/4.html>

After a wave of searches that took place in Moscow and the Moscow region on February 10, 2021, 43-year-old Aleksandr Serebryakov and 43-year-old Yuriy Temirbulatov were detained. On February 12, 2021, the Savelovsky District Court of Moscow is scheduled to select a deterrence measure for the two men.

**Continue reading...**

**10.02.21 – An unprecedentedly harsh sentence for a 63-year-old witness from the village of Kholmskaya: a seven-and-a-half year imprisonment for practicing faith**

Link to full text in Russian:  
<https://jw-russia.org/news/2021/02/3.html>

On February 10, 2021, Aleksandr Kholoshin, judge of the Abinsk district court of Krasnodar region, pronounced the sentence on Aleksandr Ivshin, who was accused by local law enforcement officials of organizing the activities of a banned organization (part 1 of article 282.2 of the RF Criminal

Code). The believer was taken into custody in the courtroom. He will be kept in pre-trial detention until the sentence is enforced.

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**02.02.21 – A Birobidzhan court handed a sentence for believing in God. Artur Lokhvitskiy received a two-and-a-half-year suspended sentence**

Link to full text in Russian :  
<https://jw-russia.org/news/2021/02/2.html>

On February 2, 2021, Olga Klyuchikova, judge of the Birobidzhan district court of the Jewish Autonomous Region, sentenced 35-year-old Artur Lokhvitskiy to 2 years and 6 months in prison conditionally with a 3-year probation period and the obligation to report to the police once a month. The sentence has not come into force.

**Continue reading...**

**01.02.21 – A Khakassia prosecutor requests a record-breaking eight-year prison sentence for Roman Baranovskiy for practicing his faith and a five-year sentence for his mother**

Link to full text in Russian:  
<https://jw-russia.org/news/2021/02/1.html>

On February 1, 2021, during a debate in the Abakan City Court, the prosecutor asked to sentence 46-year-old Roman Baranovsky to 8 years in prison and a year of restraint of freedom. For his 69-year-old mother, Valentina Baranovskaya, who suffered a stroke, the prosecutor requested 5 years in prison with the same restriction.

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