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## **Case of missing Ukrainian children in Crimea under Russian jurisdiction raised in Strasbourg**

### ***Notification to Russian Government of a case concerning ten Ukrainian children from Crimean childcare institutions***

[Registrar of the Court](#) (14.04.2025) - The European Court of Human Rights has given notice to the Government of the Russian Federation of the application Ukrainian Helsinki Human Rights Union on behalf of ten Ukrainian children v. Russia (application no. 6719/23) and requested that they submit their observations.

The case concerns ten Ukrainian children who were in childcare in Crimea in 2014 when Russia asserted jurisdiction over the peninsula. According to the association (UHHRU) acting on their behalf, Russian nationality was forced on the children and they were put up for adoption and may have been adopted. There has been no information on their whereabouts since 2014, despite the Ukrainian authorities' repeated requests.

See also a previous [press release](#) on the case concerning a request to the European Court by UHHRU to grant an urgent interim measure (under Rule 39 of the Rules of Court) to stop the adoptions.

A [statement of facts](#) submitted to the parties, with questions from the Court, is available in English on the Court's website. The Court's ruling in the case will be made at a later stage.

### ***Principal facts***

The application was lodged by the Ukrainian Helsinki Human Rights Union (UHHRU) on behalf of ten minors, born between 2009 and 2013, who are Ukrainian nationals by birth.

In 2014 the children were wards of the Ukrainian State living in childcare institutions in Crimea. At the time they were aged between one and five years old.

According to UHHRU, following Russia's assertion of jurisdiction over Crimea in 2014, over 4,000 children deprived of parental care were automatically declared Russian citizens. Despite the Ukrainian Government's requests, Russia refused to transfer the children to the Ukrainian authorities and initiated adoption procedures.

UHHRU submit that the ten children in the present case were put up for adoption and may have been adopted, judging from the sudden disappearance in 2023 of some of the children's names from adoption websites in Russia.

Currently, UHHRU has no contact with the children and there is no information regarding their whereabouts.

### **Complaints**

Relying on Article 8 (right to respect for private life) of the European Convention on Human Rights, UHHRU argues that the arbitrary change of the children's citizenship and their adoption, which was facilitated by the Russian authorities in the context of the ongoing war in Ukraine, deprived them of their social identity as Ukrainian nationals.

Relying on Article 5 (right to liberty and security) of the European Convention, UHHRU also complains about the Russian authorities' keeping the children in institutions after establishing effective control over Crimea.

### **Procedure**

The application was lodged with the European Court of Human Rights on 14 January 2023.

On 8 February 2023 the Court received a request for an interim measure under Rule 39 of the Rules of Court, in which UHHRU argued that there was an imminent risk that the applicants could be adopted, and that this was being facilitated by the Russian authorities. On 14 February 2023 the Court decided to refuse the request on the basis that it related to events (the adoption of the applicants) after 16 September 2022, the date on which the Russian Federation ceased to be a Party to the Convention, and issued a [press release](#).

At the same time, the Court decided to grant the case priority, anonymity, and confidentiality under Rules 41, 47 § 4 and 33 § 2 of the Rules of the Court.

On 25 March 2025 the Government of Russia were given notice of the application with questions from the Court. The Government have until 31 July 2025 to submit their observations and were invited to confirm, within three weeks of the date on the Court's letter, whether they intend to comply with this deadline.

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## **Political repression in March 2025: at least 44 Russians sentenced to about 250-year prison terms (EN/ RU)**

***Политические репрессии в марте 2025 года: не менее 44 россиян приговорены к срокам около 250 лет лишения свободы (EN/RU)***

***Click on the title to read the full article/ Нажмите на заголовок, чтобы прочитать статью полностью***

HRWF (07.04.2025) - On the basis of the research of the Russian association [OVD-Info](#), we have identified 44 cases of Russian citizens sentenced to effective prison terms from 1 to 16 years (around 250 years in all) in March 2025 and serving them in various detention centers. These statistics do not claim to be exhaustive but only reflect a part of the reality.

На основе исследований российского объединения ОВД-Инфо нами выявлено 44 случая осуждения граждан России к реальным срокам лишения свободы от 1 до 16 лет (всего около 250 лет) в марте 2025 года и отбывания ими наказания в различных следственных изоляторах. Приведенная статистика не претендует на полноту, а лишь отражает часть реальности.

**31.03.2025**

**[The publisher of Important Stories and the journalist of Dozhd were sentenced in absentia to eight and a half years](#)**

[Издателя «Важных историй» и журналистку «Дождя» заочно приговорили к восьми с половиной годам](#)

**[Four Jehovah's Witnesses from Tver Region Sentenced to Six Years in Prison](#)**

[Четырех свидетелей Иеговы из Тверской области приговорили к шести годам колонии](#)

**27.03.2025**

**[A resident of Kuban was sentenced to four years in prison because of comments on Telegram and VKontakte](#)**

[Жителя Кубани приговорили к четырем годам колонии из-за комментариев в телеграме и «ВКонтакте»](#)

**[The convict was sentenced because of comments about the death of Kadyrov. He participated in the trial lying down](#)**

[Осужденному из-за комментариев о смерти Кадырова утвердили приговор. Он участвовал в суде лежа](#)

**[Publicist Boris Stomakhin was sentenced in absentia to ten years in prison because of articles about the war in Ukraine](#)**

[Публициста Бориса Стомахина заочно осудили на десять лет колонии из-за статей о войне в Украине](#)

**[Four defendants in the "Baymak case" were sentenced to terms of up to seven and a half years in prison](#)**

[Четырех фигурантов «баймакского дела» приговорили к срокам до семи с половиной лет колонии](#)

**[RusNews journalist Maria Ponomarenko was sentenced to a year and ten months in a colony in a new case](#)**

[Журналистку RusNews Марию Пономаренко приговорили к году и десяти месяцам колонии по новому делу](#)

**25.02.2025**

**[St. Petersburg activist sentenced to two years in a colony because of anti-war pickets](#)**

[Петербургскую активистку приговорили к двум годам колонии из-за антивоенных пикетов](#)

**[Mordovian human rights activist sentenced to a year in a penal colony in the case of discrediting the army](#)**

[Мордовского правозащитника приговорили к году колонии-поселения по делу о дискредитации армии](#)

**23.03.2025**

**[Tuvan journalist sentenced to three years in a colony on charges of extortion](#)**

[Тувинской журналистке назначили три года колонии по обвинению в вымогательстве](#)

**22.03.2025**

**[An employee of a veterinary clinic from Chita was replaced with a suspended sentence in the "anti-war case" with a real one](#)**

[Сотруднице ветклиники из Читы заменили условный срок по «антивоенному делу» на реальный](#)

**21.03.2025**

**[In the Ulyanovsk region, the former head of the medical center was convicted in the case of the "international LGBT movement"](#)**

[В Ульяновской области бывшего главу медцентра осудили по делу о «международном движении ЛГБТ»](#)

**[Dissident Alexander Skobov, who spoke out against the war, was sentenced to 16 years in a colony](#)**

[Выступавшего против войны диссидента Александра Скобова приговорили к 16 годам колонии](#)

**19.03.2025**

**[Four defendants in the "Baymak case" were sentenced to real terms](#)**

[Четырех фигурантов «баймакского дела» приговорили к реальным срокам](#)

**18.03.2025**

**[A resident of the Altai Territory was convicted in the case of financing "undesirable" Ukrainian organizations](#)**

[Жительницу Алтайского края осудили по делу о финансировании «нежелательных» украинских организаций](#)

**14.03.2025**

**[A resident of the Kurgan region was sentenced to five years of forced labor in the case of military "fakes"](#)**

[Жителю Курганской области назначили пять лет принудительных работ по делу о военных «фейках»](#)

**[Five defendants in the "Baymak case" were sentenced to terms of up to five years in a colony](#)**

[Пятерых фигурантов «баймакского дела» приговорили к срокам до пяти лет колонии](#)

**13.03.2025**

**[A military court sentenced a native of Ukraine to 15 years in a colony in the case of arson of the military registration and enlistment office](#)**

[Военный суд приговорил уроженца Украины к 15 годам колонии по делу о поджоге военкомата](#)

**[A worker from Yekaterinburg was sentenced to a penal colony because of a comment about Tatarsky](#)**

[Рабочего из Екатеринбурга приговорили к колонии из-за комментария про Татарского](#)

**[A resident of the Stavropol Territory was sentenced to six years in a colony in the case of military "fakes"](#)**

[Жительницу Ставропольского края приговорили к шести годам колонии по делу о военных «фейках»](#)

**[The prisoner was sentenced to a new sentence in the case of spreading "fakes" in the colony](#)**

[Заклученному назначили новый приговор по делу о распространении «фейков» в колонии](#)

**12.03.2025**

**[Opposition blogger from Krasnodar Territory sentenced to seven years in a colony](#)**

[Оппозиционного блогера из Краснодарского края приговорили к семи годам колонии](#)

**[A resident of Tuapse was sentenced to three years of forced labor because of a post about the war with Ukraine](#)**

[Жителя Туапсе приговорили к трем годам принудительных работ из-за поста о войне с Украиной](#)

**11.03.2025**

**[Jehovah's Witness was sentenced to 6 years in a colony. He spent 4 years in a pre-trial detention center and will soon be released](#)**

[Свидетелю Иеговы утвердили 6 лет колонии. Он 4 года провел в СИЗО и скоро выйдет на свободу](#)

**10.03.2025**

**[A director from Moscow was approved for eight years in a colony in the case of publications about the war and Putin](#)**

[Режиссерке из Москвы утвердили восемь лет колонии по делу о публикациях про войну и Путина](#)

**[Supporters of Svetlana Lada-Rus were sentenced to terms of up to five and a half years in a colony](#)**

[Сторонниц Светланы Лада-Русь приговорили к срокам до пяти с половиной лет колонии](#)

**06.03.2025**

[\*\*Jehovah's Witness in Kemerovo Region Sentenced to 6 Years in a colony\*\*](#)  
[Свидетеля Иеговы в Кемеровской области приговорили к 6 годам колонии](#)

[\*\*A resident of the Khabarovsk Territory was sentenced to 6 years in a colony in the case of repeated discrediting and "fakes"\*\*](#)

[Жителя Хабаровского края приговорили к 6 годам колонии по делу о повторной дискредитации и «фейках»](#)

[\*\*Former Moscow deputy sentenced in absentia to eight years in prison because of post about Bucha and Irpin\*\*](#)

[Бывшую московскую депутатку заочно приговорили к восьми годам колонии из-за поста о Буче и Ирпене](#)

**04.03.2025**

[\*\*Sterlitamakov resident sentenced to 3 years because of the phrase "blow up this Moscow" and the words about the terrorist attack in Crocus\*\*](#)

[Стерлитамаковца приговорили к 3 годам из-за фразы «взорвать эту Москву» и слов о теракте в «Крокусе»](#)

**03.03.2025**

[\*\*Jehovah's Witness from Sakhalin Sentenced to Six Years in a colony\*\*](#)

[Свидетеля Иеговы из Сахалина приговорили к шести годам колонии](#)

**01.03.2025**

[\*\*Lawyer, previously prosecuted under the article on calls for terrorism, was placed in a mental hospital\*\*](#)

[Юристка, ранее преследуемая по статье о призывах к терроризму, находится в психбольнице](#)

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## **Political repression: Sentences to prison terms in February 2025 (EN/ RU)**

### **Политические репрессии: приговоры к тюремному заключению в феврале 2025 года**

*Click on the title to read the full article/ Нажмите на заголовок, чтобы прочитать статью полностью*

**OVD-Info HRWF (03.03.2025)**

**28.02.2025**

[\*\*The founder of the Gulagu.net Vladimir Osechkin was sentenced to 8 years in prison in absentia in the case of "fakes"\*\*](#)

[Основателя Gulagu.net Владимира Осечкина приговорили к 8 годам колонии заочно по делу о «фейках»](#)

**27.02.2025**

**[Blogger from Shuya Sergey Veselov, convicted in the case of discrediting the army, received a new sentence](#)**

Осужденный по делу о дискредитации армии блогер из Шуи Сергей Веселов получил новый срок

**[Two residents of the Stavropol Territory were convicted in the case of burning cones in the Eternal Flame](#)**

Двух жителей Ставропольского края осудили по делу о сжигании шишек в Вечном огне

**[DOXA reaper Armen Aramyan sentenced in absentia to 10 years in prison under two criminal articles](#)**

Редактора DOXA Армена Арамяна заочно приговорили к 10 годам заключения по двум уголовным статьям

**[Jehovah's Witness from Petropavlovsk-Kamchatsky Sentenced to Six Years of Probation](#)**

Свидетеля Иеговы из Петропавловска-Камчатского приговорили к шести годам условного срока

**26.02.2025**

**[Jehovah's Witness Sentenced to More Than Four Years in Prison in Krasnodar Territory](#)**

В Краснодарском крае Свидетеля Иеговы осудили более чем на четыре года заключения

**[Two Wagner mercenaries were sentenced to 5.5 years in prison in the case of "fakes" because of an interview with Gulagu.net](#)**

Двум вагнеровцам назначили по 5,5 лет колонии по делу о "фейках" из-за интервью Gulagu.net

**[Five defendants in the case of the people's gathering in Baymak were sentenced to five years in prison](#)**

Пятерых фигурантов дела о народной сходке в Баймаке приговорили к пяти годам колонии

**[Crimean sentenced to five years in prison because of comments about Russians under YouTube videos](#)**

Крымчанина приговорили к пяти годам колонии из-за комментариев о русских под роликами на ютубе

**[Krasnodar resident sentenced to two years in the case of calls to set fire to military registration and enlistment offices](#)**

Краснодарца осудили на два года по делу о призывах поджигать военкоматы

**25.02.2025**

**[Muscovite sentenced to three and a half years in prison in the case of Anti-Corruption Foundation donations](#)**

Москвича приговорили к трем с половиной годам колонии по делу о донатах ФБК

**24.02.2025**

**[French political scientist approved sentence in case of collection of military data](#)**  
Французскому политологу утвердили приговор по делу о сборе военных данных

**22.02.2025**

**[In the Kirov region, a cleaner was convicted because of a negative comment about a participant in the war in Ukraine](#)**

В Кировской области уборщицу осудили из-за негативного комментария об участнике войны в Украине

**21.02.2025**

**[Jehovah's Witness from Cherkessk Sentenced to Six Years and Three Months in a Penal Colony](#)**

Свидетеля Иеговы из Черкесска приговорили к шести годам и трем месяцам колонии

**[Kaliningrad resident sentenced to eight months in prison because of seven donations from the Anti-Corruption Foundation](#)**

Калининградца приговорили к восьми месяцам колонии из-за семи донатов ФБК

**20.02.2025**

**[Court Repeatedly Finds Jehovah's Witness Couple Guilty of Extremism and Toughens Punishment](#)**

Суд повторно признал супружескую пару Свидетелей Иеговы виновной в экстремизме и ужесточил наказание

**[64-Year-Old Jehovah's Witness from Krasnoyarsk Region Sentenced to Two Years Probation Again](#)**

64-летнего Свидетеля Иеговы из Красноярского края повторно приговорили к двум годам условно

**19.02.2025**

**[In Kuzbass, the first known sentence was issued due to the ban on the "International LGBT Movement"](#)**

В Кузбассе вынесли первый известный приговор из-за запрета "Международного движения ЛГБТ"

**18.02.2025**

**[A student from Murmansk was sentenced to 13 years in prison in a case of treason](#)**

Студента из Мурманска осудили на 13 лет колонии по делу о госизмене

**17.02.2025**

**[Kazan businessman sentenced to five years in prison because of words about "Russians" and "those who are for the Special Military Operation"](#)**

Казанского бизнесмена приговорили к пяти годам колонии из-за слов о "русне" и "тех, кто за СВО"

**14.02.2025**



**[Kostromich was sentenced to four years in prison because of an attempt to join the Freedom of Russia Legion](#)**

[Костромича приговорили к четырем годам колонии из-за попытки вступить в легион "Свобода России"](#)

**13.02.2025**

**[Ex-member of Nizhny Novgorod "Yabloko" sentenced to three years in prison in the case of "Navalny's headquarters"](#)**

[Экс-члена нижегородского "Яблока" приговорили к трем годам колонии по делу о "штабах Навального"](#)

**[Vladimir supporter of Duntsova sentenced to two years in prison because of publications in Telegram](#)**

[Владимирского сторонника Дунцовой приговорили к двум годам колонии из-за публикаций в телеграме](#)

**[Jehovah's Witness from Altai Krai sentenced to 3 Years in Prison](#)**

[Свидетеля Иеговы из Алтайского края приговорили к 3 годам колонии](#)

**11.02.2025**

**[A resident of Naberezhnye Chelny was sentenced to a suspended sentence in the case of discrediting the army](#)**

[Жителя Набережных челнов приговорили к условному сроку по делу о дискредитации армии](#)

**10.02.2025**

**[A resident of the Stavropol Territory was sentenced to one and a half years in prison because of tattoos with the symbols of "AUE"](#)**

[Жителя Ставропольского края приговорили к полутора годам колонии из-за татуировок с символикой "АУЕ"](#)

**[A Crimean who shouted "Slava Ukraine" in court was sentenced to six months in a penal colony](#)**

[Крымчанину, кричавшему в суде "Слава Украине", назначили шесть месяцев колонии-поселения](#)

**[The Moscow City Court approved the sentence to the administrator of the Moscow Calling telegram channel in the case of military "fakes"](#)**

[Мосгорсуд утвердил приговор администратору телеграм-канала Moscow Calling по делу о военных «фейках»](#)

**07.02.2025**

**[In St. Petersburg, a man was sentenced to 11 years in prison because of correspondence with the Freedom of Russia Legion](#)**

[В Петербурге мужчину приговорили к 11 годам заключения из-за переписки с легионом "Свобода России"](#)

**[Six people persecuted in the wake of the people's gathering in Baymak were sentenced to terms of up to five years](#)**

[Шесть человек, преследуемых по следам народного схода в Баймаке, приговорили к срокам до пяти лет](#)

**[Orthodox blogger from Buryatia sentenced to forced labor in a case of violence](#)**

[Православного блогера из Бурятии приговорили к принудительным работам по делу о применении насилия](#)

**[Jehovah's Witnesses from Izhevsk Have Suspended Sentences Replaced with Real Sentences](#)**

[Свидетелям Иеговы из Ижевска заменили условные сроки на реальные](#)

**07.02.2025**

**[Samara saxophonist Andrei Shabanov was sentenced to six years in prison in the case of writing a post about the war](#)**

[Самарского саксофониста Андрея Шабанова приговорили к шести годам колонии по делу о посте про войну](#)

**05.02.2025**

**[78-Year-Old Jehovah's Witness from Khabarovsk Territory Sentenced to Probation for Correspondence](#)**

[78-летнюю Свидетельницу Иеговы из Хабаровского края приговорили к условному сроку из-за переписки](#)

**[Khristolyub Vegan was sentenced to three years in a penal colony because of his words about Islam and Soviet soldiers](#)**

[Христолюбя Вегана осудили на три года колонии-поселения из-за слов об исламе и советских солдатах](#)

**04.02.2025**

**[Jehovah's Witness from Krasnodar sentenced to 6 years and 5 months in prison](#)**

[Свидетеля Иеговы из Краснодара приговорили к 6 годам и 5 месяцам колонии](#)

**[A resident of the Altai Territory was sentenced to five years in prison because of statements on the Internet](#)**

[Жителя Алтайского края приговорили к пяти годам колонии из-за высказываний в интернете](#)

**[Ex-National Bolshevik from Chelyabinsk sentenced to six years in prison because of comments on VKontakte](#)**

[Экс-нацбола из Челябинска приговорили к шести годам колонии из-за комментариев во «ВКонтакте»](#)

**[Jehovah's Witnesses from Primorsky Krai Sentenced](#)**

[Свидетелям Иеговы из Приморского края вынесли приговоры](#)

**03.02.2025**

**[The military was sentenced to two and a half years in prison because of posts about the war in Ukraine](#)**

[Военного приговорили к двум с половиной годам колонии из-за постов о войне в Украине](#)

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## Political repression: Sentences to prison terms in January 2025 (EN/ RU)

*Click on the title to read the full article/ Нажмите на заголовок, чтобы прочитать статью полностью*

**31.01.2025**

**[A resident of Buryatia was sentenced to 7 years in a colony in the case of financing the RDK and justifying terrorism](#)**

[Жителю Бурятии назначили 7 лет колонии по делу о финансировании «РДК» и оправданию терроризма](#)

**[A Volgograd resident was sentenced to four years in prison because of comments on YouTube about the war in Ukraine](#)**

[Волгоградца приговорили к четырем годам колонии из-за комментариев в ютубе о войне в Украине](#)

**30.01.2025**

**[The ex-head of the Serpukhov district of the Moscow region approved the verdict in a new criminal case](#)**

[Экс-главе Серпуховского района Подмосковья утвердили приговор по новому уголовному делу](#)

**30.01.2025**

**[The ex-coordinator of the Kuzbass movement "Golos" was sentenced to four years and a month in a colony](#)**

[Экс-координатора кузбасского движения «Голос» приговорили к четырем годам и месяцу колонии](#)

**29.01.2025**

**[A resident of Bratsk was sentenced to 18 years in a maximum security colony in the case of burning the military registration and enlistment office](#)**

[Жителя Братска приговорили к 18 годам колонии строгого режима по делу о пожаре военкомата](#)

**[A resident of Orenburg was sentenced to two and a half years in a penal colony on anti-war cases](#)**

[Жительницу Оренбурга приговорили к двум с половиной годам колонии-поселения по антивоенным делам](#)

**[Krasnoyarsk resident sentenced to two years in a colony because of calls to overthrow the government in Russia](#)**

[Красноярца приговорили к двум годам колонии из-за призывов свергнуть власть в России](#)

**28.01.2025**

**The defendant in the "Baymak case" was sentenced to a real term. She will serve her sentence later**

Фигурантку «баймакского дела» приговорили к реальному сроку. Отбывать наказание она будет позже

**Jehovah's Witness from Primorsky Krai Sentenced to Three Years Probation**

Свидетеля Иеговы из Приморского края приговорили к трем годам условно

**27.01.2025**

**Engineer from Tatarstan sentenced to two and a half years in a colony in case of extremism**

Инженера из Татарстана приговорили к двум с половиной годам колонии по делу об экстремизме

**A pensioner from Moscow was sentenced to eight years in a colony because of a letter to the Prosecutor General**

Пенсионера из Москвы приговорили к восьми годам колонии из-за письма генпрокурору

**An emigrated Russian woman was sentenced in the second case of military "fakes"**

Эмигрировавшей россиянке вынесли приговор по уже второму делу о военных «фейках»

**23.01.2025**

**Jehovah's Witness from Kostroma sentenced to five years of strict regime in a new case**

Свидетеля Иеговы из Костромы приговорили к пяти годам строгого режима по новому делу

**A St. Petersburg woman was sentenced to three years in a colony because of a video calling for the liberation of Russia from Putin**

Петербурженку приговорили к трем годам колонии из-за видео с призывом освободить Россию от Путина

**A court in Moscow sentenced Ukrainian journalist Yanina Sokolovskaya in absentia to seven and a half years**

Суд в Москве заочно приговорил украинскую журналистку Янину Соколовскую к семи с половиной годам

**21.01.2025**

**In Belgorod, the programmer who set fire to the letter Z was sentenced to 6.5 years in the case of possession of explosives**

В Белгороде программиста, поджегшего букву Z, осудили на 6,5 лет по делу о хранении взрывчатки

**A former military man from St. Petersburg was punished in the case of "fakes" about the army**

Бывшему военному из Петербурга ужесточили наказание по делу о «фейках» про армию

**20.01.2025**

### **Two 66-year-old Jehovah's Witnesses Sentenced to Five-and-a-Half-Year Probation**

Двух 66-летних Свидетельниц Иеговы приговорили к пяти с половиной годам условно

### **Jehovah's Witness from Karachay-Cherkessia Sentenced to Suspended Sentence**

Свидетельницу Иеговы из Карачаево-Черкесии приговорили к условному сроку

### **In Karachay-Cherkessia, Jehovah's Witness Sentenced to Six Years Probation**

В Карачаево-Черкесии Свидетеля Иеговы приговорили к шести годам условно

### **Pskov activist sentenced to a year of probation in the case of repeated discrediting of the army**

Псковского активиста приговорили к году условно по делу о повторной дискредитации армии

**17.01.2025**

### **Three of Navalny's lawyers were sentenced to terms of up to 5.5 years in a colony**

Троих адвокатов Навального приговорили к сроками до 5,5 лет колонии

### **A resident of the Kuban, detained because of the arson of the banner "We do not leave our own", was sentenced to 13 years**

Жителя Кубани, задержанного из-за поджога баннера «Своих не бросаем», осудили на 13 лет

### **Sochi engineer sentenced to five and a half years in the case of anti-war posts**

Сочинского инженера приговорили к пяти с половиной годам по делу об антивоенных постах

### **A butcher from Tajikistan was sentenced to seven years in a colony in the case of "fakes" and hooliganism**

Мясника из Таджикистана приговорили к семи годам колонии по делу о «фейках» и о хулиганстве

**14.01.2025**

### **Jehovah's Witnesses from Crimea Sentenced to Six Years in a colony**

Свидетелей Иеговы из Крыма приговорили к шести годам колонии

### **A court in Moscow sentenced the mayor of Dnipro in absentia to nine years in prison because of posts about the war**

Суд в Москве заочно приговорил мэра Днепра к девяти годам колонии из-за постов о войне

### **A human rights activist from Zlatoust was sentenced to a suspended sentence in the case of discrediting the army**

Правозащитницу из Златоуста приговорили к условному сроку по делу о дискредитации армии

**13.01.2025**

[\*\*A motorcyclist blogger from the Perm Territory was sentenced to 6 years because of posts about the explosion of the Crimean bridge\*\*](#)

[К 6 годам приговорили блогера-мотоциклиста из Пермского края из-за постов о взрыве Крымского моста](#)

[\*\*The defendants in the case of arson of the military registration and enlistment office in Goryachy Klyuch were sentenced to 12 and 13 years in prison\*\*](#)

[Фигурантам дела о поджоге военкомата в Горячем Ключе назначили 12 и 13 лет заключения](#)

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## **The first prisoner exchange of 2025 after the 11 swaps in 2024. EU 'out of the game'**

By Willy Fautré, director of Human Rights Without Frontiers and Dr Ievgeniia Gidulianova

HRWF (31.01.2025) - On 15 January, [25 soldiers](#) and civilians [returned to Ukraine](#) from Russian captivity. The same number of prisoners was handed over to Russia.

Our research below shows that the new exchange took place again with the support of the United Arab Emirates (UAE) and the EU was again "out of the game" despite repeated public statements that the EU is "deeply involved" in the repatriation of Ukrainian prisoners of war and deported children. Their last statement was made at the 28 January session of the Subcommittee for Human Rights of the European Parliament in Brussels.

Ukrainian President Zelensky said that among those released there were defenders of Mariupol and Azovstal, as well as Kharkiv, Donetsk, Zaporizhzhia, Kherson. He also noted that they were seriously injured and ill.

Among the returnees there was also a civilian. The occupiers seized him in the Kyiv region and illegally detained him. The Coordination Headquarters for the Treatment of Prisoners of War said that all repatriated servicemen were soldiers, including sailors. The youngest released is 24 years old and the oldest 60.

The injured have, in particular, vision loss, limb amputations, complex wounds caused by bullets and land mines. Among the diseases are tuberculosis, oncology, gangrene...

### ***Overview of the 11 exchanges or prisoners of war (POW) in 2024***

#### **December 2024**

**Source :** [Hundreds of soldiers freed in the latest prisoner exchange between Russia and Ukraine \(AP\)](#)

**Approximate date:** End of December

#### **Approximate numbers:**

According to Kyiv: 189 Ukrainians  
87 soldiers from the army including 14 officers, 43 from the national guard, 33 border guards, 24 from the navy and two civilians.

According to Moscow:  
150 Ukrainians/ 150 Russians

**Facilitator of the exchange:** U.A.E.

### **October 2024**

**Source :** [95 at large: LIST of those released from captivity 18 October 2024 Russia, Ukraine conduct prisoner swap, exchange of bodies](#)

**Approximate date:** 18 October

**Approximate numbers:**

According to Kyiv: 95 Ukrainians  
Among those released from captivity: National Guardsmen, military sailors, soldiers of the Armed Forces of Ukraine, border guards, representatives of other units of the Security and Defense Forces. 69 soldiers and sergeants and 26 officers.

According to Moscow: [The Ministry of Defense reported on the exchange of prisoners of war between the Russian Federation and Ukraine in the "95 for 95" format](#)  
95 Ukrainians/ 95 Russians

**Facilitator of the exchange:** U.A.E.

### **September 2024**

**Source :** [For the second day in a row. Ukraine exchanged another 103 soldiers](#)

**Approximate date:** 14 September

**Approximate numbers:**

According to Kyiv: 103 Ukrainians  
Among them: privates and sergeants, 21 officers, and there were also two Chernobyl guards.

According to Moscow [The Ministry of Defense of the Russian Federation announced the return of 103 soldiers captured in the Kursk region](#)  
103 Ukrainians/ 103 Russians

**Facilitator of the exchange:** U.A.E.

\*\*\*\*\*

**Source :** [Defenders of Azovstal and not only. Ukraine returned another 49 soldiers from captivity](#)

**Approximate date:** 13 September

**Approximate numbers:**

According to Kyiv: 49 Ukrainians

Among the released are 23 soldiers and sergeants, 19 officers, 7 are civilians. Among them were 23 women, including Ukrainian civilians, who were illegally detained by the Russians. It was also possible to release women who were subjected to inhumane treatment, in particular, due to forced participation in the so-called "trial" of the defenders of Mariupol. Crimean activist [Nienia Umerova](#), who was captured by the Russians while crossing the border of Georgia, was released.

According to Moscow: [Russia and Ukraine exchanged prisoners](#)

49 Ukrainians/ 49 Russians

**Facilitator of the exchange:** U.A.E.

### **August 2024**

**Source :** [On August 24, Ukraine exchanged prisoners of war with the Russian side with the assistance of the United Arab Emirates. 115 Ukrainian soldiers returned home](#)

**Approximate date:** 24 August

**Approximate numbers:**

According to Kyiv: 115 Ukrainians

These were soldiers of the National Guard, the Armed Forces, the Navy, the State Border Guard Service

According to Moscow: [The Ukrainian side returned 103 Russian soldiers captured in the Kursk region, the same number of servicemen of the Armed Forces of Ukraine were handed over to Kyiv](#)

115 Ukrainians/ 115 Russians

**Facilitator of the exchange:** U.A.E.

### **July 2024**

**Source :** [Exchange with the Russian Federation: 95 prisoners of war returned to Ukraine](#)

**Approximate date:** 17 July

**Approximate numbers:**

According to Kyiv: 95 Ukrainians

These were soldiers of the Armed Forces of Ukraine, the National Guard and border guards.

According to Moscow: [The exchange of prisoners between the Russian Federation and Ukraine on July 17 was the fifth since the beginning of 2024](#)

\_95 Ukrainians/ 95 Russians

**Facilitator of the exchange:** U.A.E.

### **June 2024**



**Source :** [Ukraine returned 90 fighters from Russian captivity, including defenders of Mariupol](#)

**Approximate date:** 25 June

**Approximate numbers:**

According to Kyiv: 90 Ukrainians  
These were soldiers of the National Guard, Navy, armies, territorial defenders and border guards.

According to Moscow: [Another exchange of prisoners of war was carried out: 90 Russian servicemen were returned](#)  
90 Ukrainians/ 90 Russians

**Facilitator of the exchange:** U.A.E.

**May 2024**

**Source :** [Ukraine returned 90 fighters from Russian captivity, including defenders of Mariupol](#)

**Approximate date:** 31 May

**Approximate numbers:**

According to Kyiv: 75 Ukrainians  
These were sergeants and officers of the Armed Forces of Ukraine, the National Guard of Ukraine, the State Border Guard Service of Ukraine and civilians. 19 people captured from Zmiinyi Island, 10 defenders of Mariupol and Azovstal, Ukrainian soldiers captured in different locations.

According to Moscow: [Special operation, May 31: Russia and Ukraine exchanged prisoners](#)  
75 Ukrainians/ 75 Russians

**Facilitator of the exchange:** U.A.E.

**February 2024**

**Source (Title and link):** [A new exchange of prisoners took place 100 for 100](#)

**Approximate date:** 8 February

**Approximate numbers:**

According to Kyiv: 100 Ukrainians  
Among the rescued servicemen there were 49 soldiers of the National Guard of Ukraine, 25 border guards, 26 servicemen of the Armed Forces of Ukraine, including 11 territorial defenders.

According to Moscow: [Russia and Ukraine exchanged a hundred soldiers each](#)

100 Ukrainians/ 100 Russians

**Facilitator of the exchange:** U.A.E.

### **January 2024**

**Source:** [Ukraine has returned more than 200 people from captivity of the Russian Federation. Here's What We Know](#)

**Approximate date:** 31 January

#### **Approximate numbers:**

According to Kyiv: 207 Ukrainians

These 207 Ukrainians were soldiers of the Armed Forces of Ukraine, the National Guard, the State Border Guard Service of Ukraine, the National Police — private people, sergeants, and officers.

According to Moscow: [How the largest exchange of prisoners between Russia and Ukraine took place](#)

195 Ukrainians/ 195 Russians

**Facilitator of the exchange:** U.A.E.

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### **3 January 2024**

**Source:** [The largest exchange of prisoners during the full-scale invasion: 230 Ukrainians were released](#)

**Approximate date:** 3 January

#### **Approximate numbers:**

According to Kyiv: 230 Ukrainians

Among them were 130 people – 55 servicemen of the Armed Forces of Ukraine – 38 soldiers of the National Guard – 1 State Border Guard Service - National Police and 6 civilians who were illegally deprived of their liberty.

According to Moscow: [The Ministry of Defense of the Russian Federation returned 248 servicemen from Ukrainian captivity](#)

230 Ukrainians/ 248 Russians

**Facilitator of the exchange:** U.A.E.

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## **Repressions in Russia in 2024, a review of OVD-Info**

### ***Introduction***

[OVD](#) (16.01.2025) - The year 2024 for Russian civil society, as well as the two previous years, was marked by the unrelying war of the Russian Federation against Ukraine. Political persecution continued throughout Russia throughout the year. The main trends of the past years have been preserved - pointing, strikes on vulnerable groups, adoption of repressive laws. In addition, one of the terrible leitmotifs of the year was the death of people deprived of their liberty for political reasons: Alexei Navalny was killed, four more people died in prison, two - from the consequences of being in isolation, one - from the consequences of detention.

One of the most important events in the history of political persecution in 2024 was the "Baymak case" in Bashkortostan, which affected dozens of people. Another is the exchange of prisoners between Russia and Western countries, in which 16 people were released, most of them are prosecuted in politically motivated cases. We also saw a sharp increase in criminal prosecutions of "foreign agents" and a scaling of the persecution of LGBTQ+ people.

The report uses data and analytics of participants of OVD-Info, the [Sova](#) Research Center, the [Exit](#) group, the [Thunderstorm](#) media, the [first department](#) and the [Team against torture](#) human rights projects.

We receive information about politically motivated persecution from different sources - websites of Russian courts and departments, the media, the persecuted themselves and their relatives. Due to the limited information available - in particular, the texts of court decisions - and the resulting impossibility of tracking all prosecutions in real time, our data is obviously incomplete, but we consider it correct and useful to publish the available and contribute to the description of the objective picture of political persecution in Russia.

We also publish data on persecution in the annexed territories of Crimea and Sevastopol - repressions there are carried out by Russian law enforcement agencies, and we have the opportunity to verify this data. As for the occupied territories of Donetsk, Luhansk, Kherson and Zaporizhzhia regions of Ukraine, we have decided to monitor data on what is happening there only this year, and so far, including due to the difficulty in obtaining and verifying this data, we are not ready to consider and count them on a par with the rest.

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**Note:** Use the automatic translation if you cannot read Russian

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