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27.12.2022

Repressions against the Russian anti-war movement. Ten months of the full-scale war

[Русская версия](#)

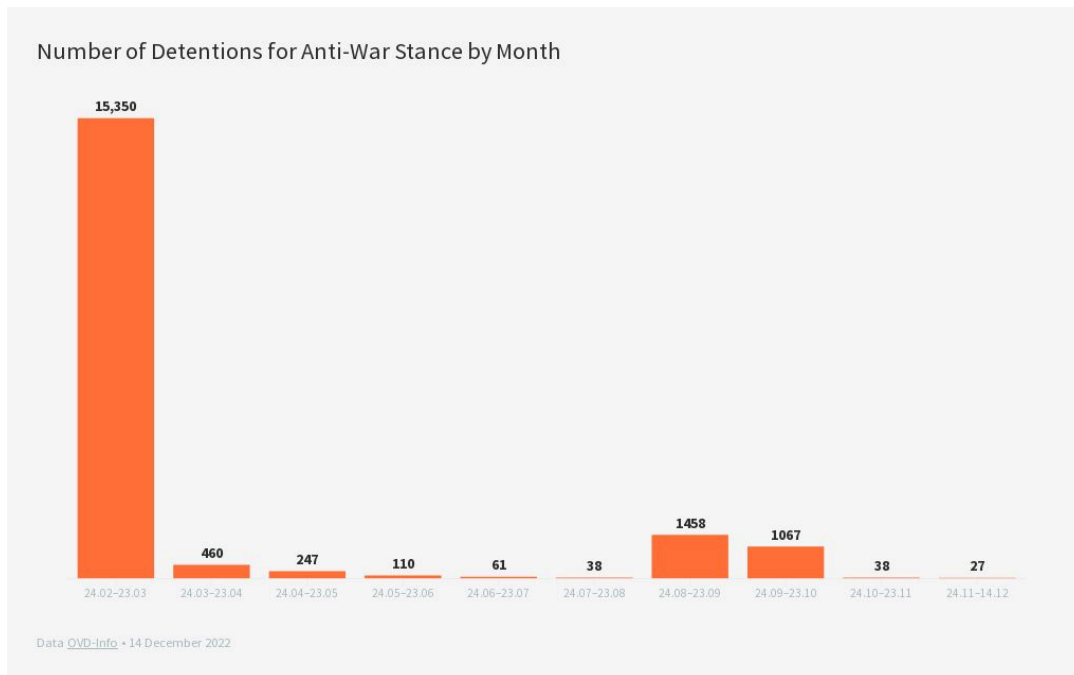
It has been ten months since the beginning of the full-scale war. Throughout this time, the Kremlin has been escalating the intensity of domestic repressions. . Here is an overview of repressions in Russia between 24 November and 24 December, 2022.

THE RIGHT TO FREEDOM OF ASSEMBLY

19 428

arrests for an anti-war stance between 24 February and 14 December

Since 24 February, there have been only 29 days without arrests for an anti-war stance in Russia.




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In December the State Duma considered and adopted 12 repressive laws in at least one reading. One of these laws is a new **standard** of increased liability for “foreign agents”. All “agents” are to face criminal liability if they get two administrative fines in a span of a year. Moreover, according to the new law, people not included in the registry but operating as foreign agents can also face an administrative lawsuit.

Another innovation: from now on, spreading materials not included in the extremist registry but considered extremist by federal law will also **entail liability**. Examples of this include

publishing a photo of Adolf Hitler or Benito Mussolini, regardless of the context. The Duma also issued a **draft legislation** regarding administrative liability for the production and distribution of maps and other imagery that “challenges territorial integrity of the Russian Federation” — this would cover, for instance, sharing a map with Crimea not marked as Russia.

<input type="checkbox"/>	Закон	Ссылк
1	О внесении изменений в Федеральный закон "Об образовании в Российск...	https://
2	О внесении изменений в Кодекс Российской Федерации об администрати...	https://
3	О внесении изменения в статью 205-6 Уголовного кодекса Российской Фе...	https://
4	On Amendments to Article 6.21 of the Code of the Russian Federation on Admi...	https://
5	On Amendments to Article 458 of the Criminal Procedure Code of the Russian ...	https://
6	On Amendments to the Federal Law "On Communications" and Certain Legisla...	https://
7	On Amendments to the Federal Law "On Combating the Legalization (Launderi...	https://
68 records		

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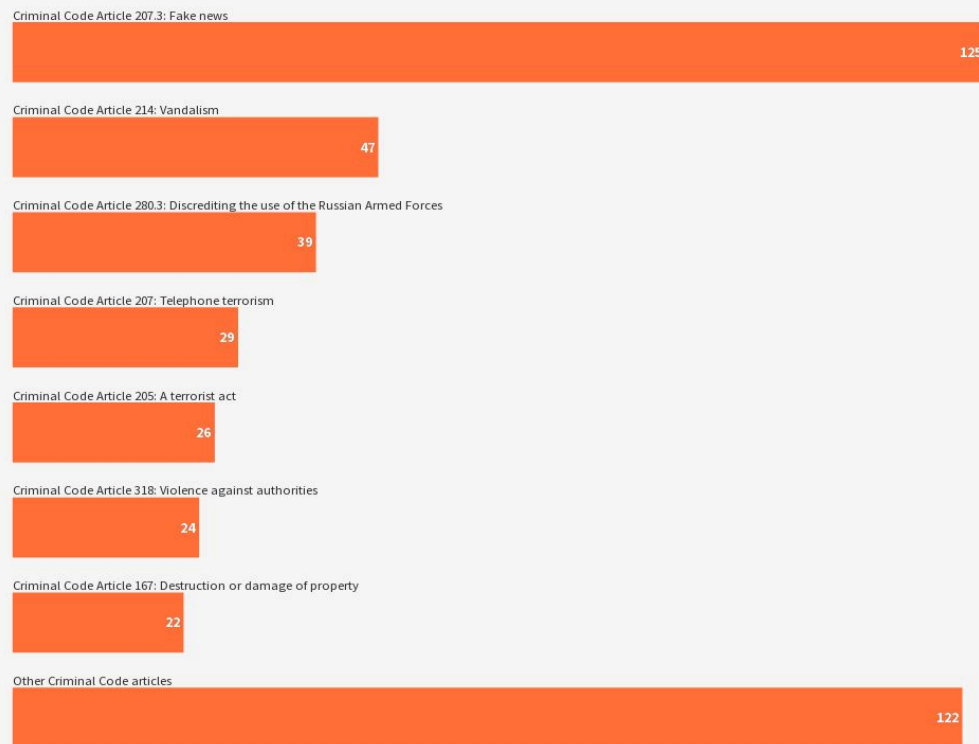
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CRIMINAL CASES

384

defendants in anti-war criminal cases

The number of defendants in the “anti-war case” prosecuted under each of the articles



Data: OVD-info • 23 December 2022
Defendants being prosecuted under several articles are included in each of the corresponding columns

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This month, 30 new defendants in criminal anti-war cases came to light. Among them is a Petersburg **activist** Daniil Krinari, who was detained in Hrodna, Belarus, brought to Moscow, and charged with cooperation with a foreign state (article 275.1 of the Criminal Code of Russian Federation); a former school teacher Nikita Tushkanov, who posted a photograph of the explosion of the Crimea bridge and is now prosecuted under part 2 of article 205.2 and part 1 of article 280.3 of the Criminal Code; Valery Badmaev – chief editor of the “Modern Kalmykia” publication (p.1 art. 280.3 of the Criminal Code).

Ilya Yashin was **sentenced** to 8.5 years in prison for his stream about Bucha. This is the longest sentence given for article 207.3 of the Criminal Code (public dissemination of knowingly false information about the use of the Russian Federation Armed Forces. Vladimir Rummyantsev, a stoker

from Vologda, was **sentenced** to 3 years of general regime penal colony. So far during the full-scale war, at least 51 defendants have been convicted under the “anti-war case.”

Meanwhile, OVD-Info defense attorneys have helped 46 defendants in 27 criminal cases in 25 cities. Additionally, legal counsel was present in two searches and two interrogations. [Support OVD-Info](#)

ADMINISTRATIVE CASES

5518

cases under article 20.3.3. (“Discreditation”)

OVD-Info defense attorneys **partook** in 226 administrative cases and helped 53 defendants in the past month. For example, our project’s lawyers helped detainees during the law enforcement’s visit to the coworking “Open space” in Moscow.

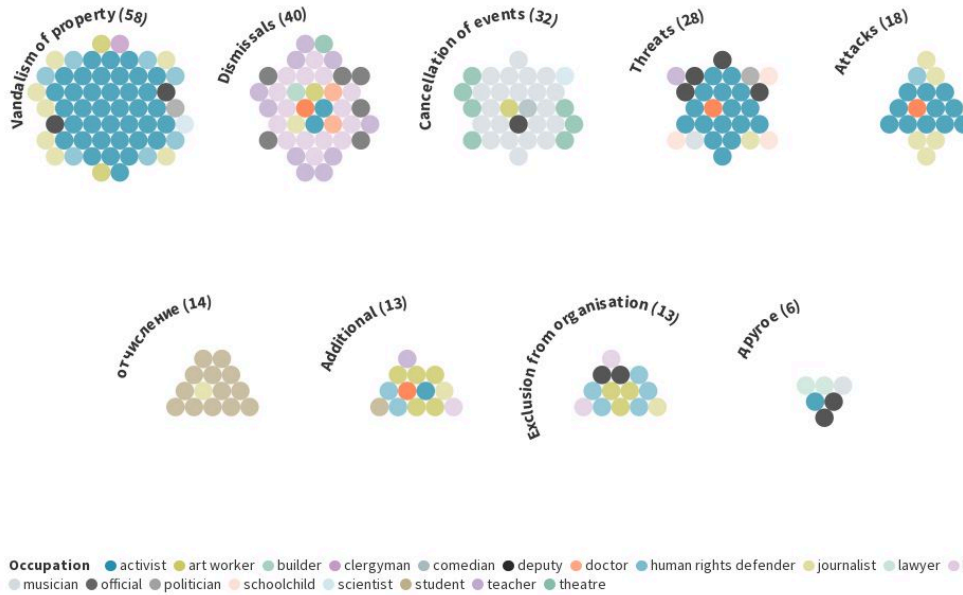
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EXTRAJUDICIAL PRESSURE

222

cases of extrajudicial pressure on people with an anti-war stance between 24 February to 24 December.

There are 9 known cases of extrajudicial pressure from 24 November to 24 December.



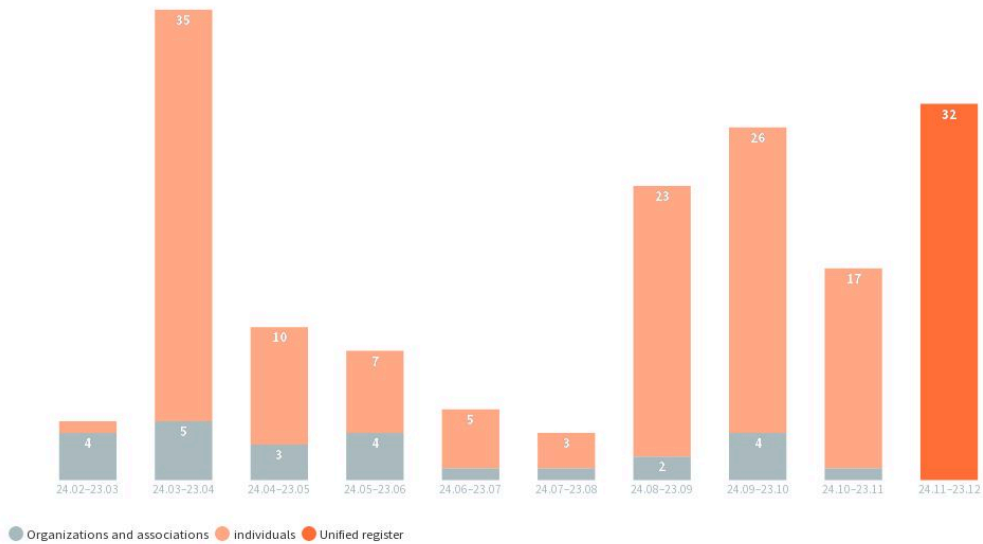
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«FOREIGN AGENTS» AND «UNDESIRABLE ORGANIZATIONS»

32

The Ministry of Justice included 32 “foreign agents”
in the register from 24 November to 24 December

184 individuals, organizations and associations were recognized as "foreign agents" in 10 months

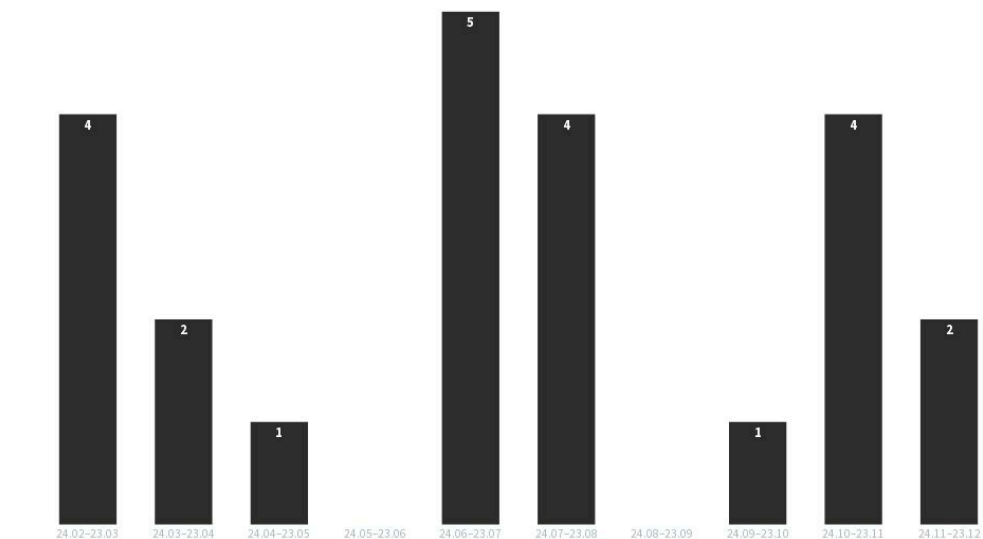


Data: [Inoteka](#) • 23 December 2022

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On 1 December, 2022, the Ministry of Justice published a unified register of "foreign agents", which includes all those who have ever been recognized as a "foreign agent". Sakharov's center **was fined** 10 times 500,000 rubles each, for a total of 5 million rubles, for the lack of the corresponding disclaimer of "foreign agents" on the videos. The Sakhalin Environmental Watch, after 27 years of operation, **announced** its closure once it was announced a "foreign agent".

23 organizations were declared undesirable in the last 10 months



Data: [Inoteka](#) • 23 December 2022

From 24 November to 24 December, the Russian authorities recognized two organizations as "undesirable" - the analytical center "Riddle" and the "Russian Anti-War Committee in Sweden". Since 24 February, 23 organizations have been included in this list.

BLOCKING AND CENSORSHIP

9208

sites subjected to "military censorship"

This month Roskomnadzor blocked, for instance: [news portal KavPolit](#), the [fact-checking project Provereno.Media](#), [Chernigov News](#), many links to [«opposition portal Soproivlenie2»](#), website of Vladimir's town magazine [«Rezonans»](#), another domain of the [project "I want to live"](#) dedicated to helping Russian soldier defect and surrender in Ukraine. The Pervomaisky District Court of Omsk [blocked](#) the caricature of Vladimir Putin, where the symbol of Russian special operation, English letter "Z", is compared to the Nazi swastika.

PRESSURE ON INDEPENDENT MEDIA

The Sakhalin news agency Sakh.com [announced](#) their closure – they've been blocked for the second time. The journalistic alliance Barents Press International has also [suspended](#) its work in Russia starting from 1 January 2023.

Searches continued in the justifying terrorism case against journalists **Andrei Grigoriev** and **Aisylu Kadyrova** – in Kazan security services **carried out** a search in the apartment of Tatarstan journalist Nailya Mullaeva, a search also **took place** at the properties of Tatarstan activist Elina Yasonova.

The independent Dagestani media “Chernovik” **terminated** publishing the printed version of the newspaper due to pressure from the republican authorities on printing houses.

In Astrakhan siloviki **detained** the parents of blogger Vasily Shvetsov, who had emigrated from Russia, his parents were held overnight at the police station. They have not been told why they were detained.

Pressure on Civil Society

The oldest human rights organization in Russia, the Moscow Helsinki Group, **received** a liquidation lawsuit from the Ministry of Justice. Ural “Memorial” will be **evicted** from the premises due to the decision of the authorities of Yekaterinburg city to terminate the lease agreement with human rights activists.

The city court of St. Petersburg **declared the** “Vesna” movement as extremist.

The Ministry of Justice recommended disbaring Mikhail Benyash on the basis of inspection of his Telegram channel. According to a Ministry official, one of the publications of the attorney "contains analogies of the Nazi regime, as well as Hitler with the president of the Russian Federation."

Mikhail Benyash also **received** a withdrawal from the judge in the cases he led the Court of Appeal in the city of Sochi. The reason was his “foreign agent” status.

The anti-war artist Daniil **Shershnev** was sent to a military unit in the Tver region for **compulsory** military service. In Samara, libertarian Yegor Beschastnov was forcibly **taken** to

the military commissariat - the draft board decided to send the activist to the army. The next day, Yegor Beschastnov **wrote** that he was in Kazakhstan without explaining how he crossed the border.

LINKS TO OTHER DATA AND REPORTS BY OVD-INFO:

- Summary of political repressions. [2022](#)
- Summary of anti-war repressions. [November 2022](#)
- Summary of anti-war repressions. [October 2022](#)
- Summary of anti-war repressions. [September 2022](#)
- Summary of anti-war repressions. [August 2022](#)
- Summary of anti-war repressions. [July 2022](#)
- Summary of anti-war repressions. [June 2022](#)
- Report in Russian «[No war. How the Russian authorities are fighting anti-war protests.](#)»
- Report in Ukrainian «[No war. How the Russian authorities are fighting anti-war protests.](#)»
- Guide «[The anti-war case.](#)»
- The input of information in reply to the call for submissions: [Challenges to freedom of opinion and expression in times of conflicts and disturbances.](#)
- Report «[Blocking Internet resources as a tool of political censorship.](#)»
- Project on the law on «foreign agents» — «[Inoteka](#)».
- Report «[How the authorities use cameras and facial recognition against protesters.](#)»
- [Reports](#) of OVD-Info and other organizations on the compliance of the Russian Federation with its international obligations in the field of human rights.
- [Information on the human rights situation in Russia](#) for the OSCE Moscow Mechanism.

More to read



Memory Wars

Alexey Uvarov explains civil society's struggle to commemorate repression victims.