

26.01.2023

Summary of Russian wartime repression. Eleven months since the full-scale invasion

[Русская версия](#)

[Українська версія](#)

The full-scale invasion of Ukraine has been going on for 11 months. During this time the Russian authorities have not ceased their repression against those who express their opposition to the war. Almost 20,000 have been detained with over 400 defendants in criminal cases, new «foreign agents» and much more — all featured in the January summary of wartime repression.

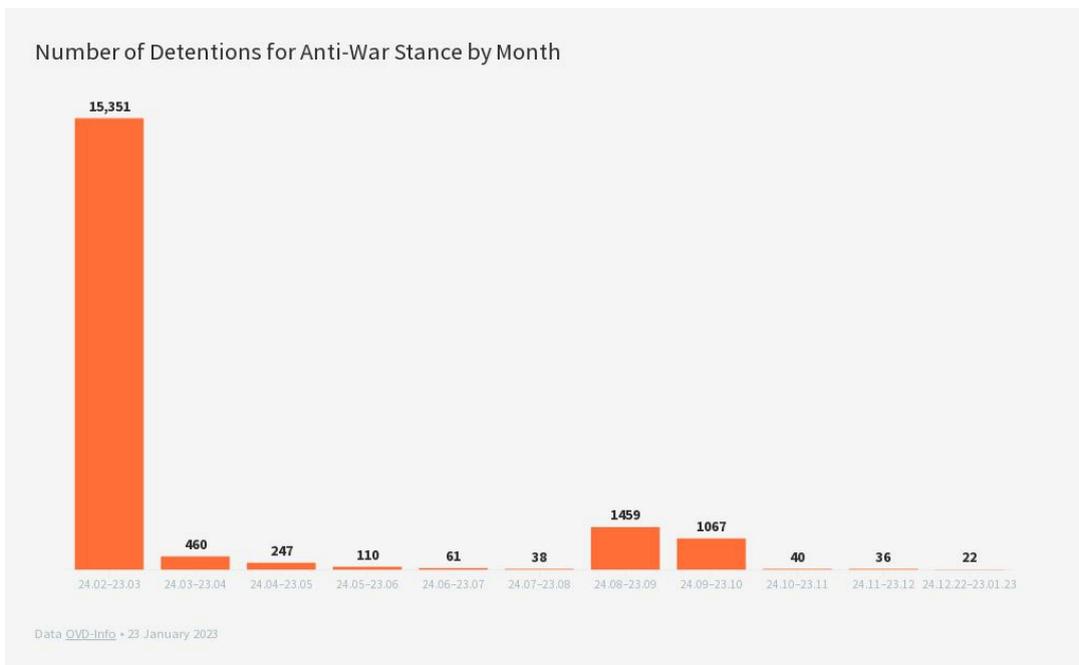
RESTRICTIONS ON THE RIGHT TO FREEDOM OF ASSOCIATION

≥6

people were detained at spontaneous memorials in Russia in memory of the victims of the missile attack in Dnipro

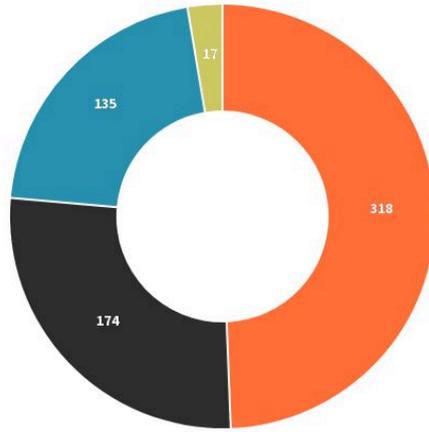
19,535

arrests for an anti-war stance between 24 February and 23 January



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Detentions for anti-war stance with unspecified date



after anti-war protests ● detentions for anti-war posts on social media ● detentions for anti-war symbols ● detentions for speaking out against the war

Data QVD-Info • 23 January 2023

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REPRESSION AT A LEGISLATIVE LEVEL

From 24 December 2022 to 24 January 2023 Russian legislators have not adopted a single repressive law. Nonetheless in the preceding 10 months 33 such laws have been adopted.

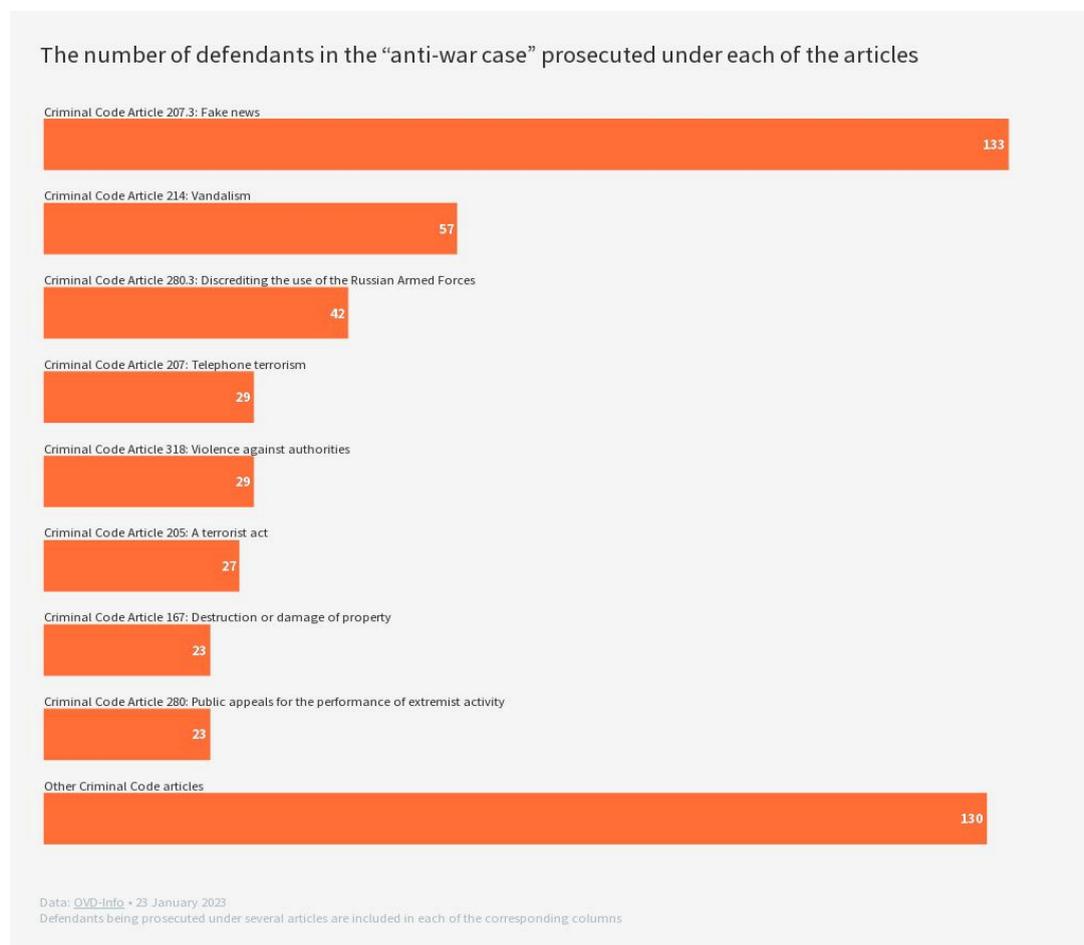
	Закон	Ссылк
1	О внесении изменений в Федеральный закон "Об образовании в Российск...	https://
2	О внесении изменений в Кодекс Российской Федерации об администрати...	https://
3	О внесении изменения в статью 205-6 Уголовного кодекса Российской Фе...	https://
4	On Amendments to Article 6.21 of the Code 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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CRIMINAL CASES

420

defendants in anti-war criminal cases

This month it became known about 28 new defendants in the “anti-war case”.



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Some defendants have already served their sentences - so, in December Zakhar Tatuiko, sentenced in a case for use of

violence against a figure of authority at an anti-war demonstration on 2nd March 2022, **was released**.

Employees of the law-enforcement agencies continue to use violence and threats.

71 year old activist, Vladimir Atamanchuk, who is being investigated under an article of repeatedly discrediting the army, **was hospitalized** following a heart attack next to the police building in Sochi. A law-enforcement officer intimidated the pensioner's doctor and forced Atamanchuk to go for interrogation when he was on sick leave. Following a meeting at Timiryazev district court in Moscow the escort **assaulted** Dmitry Ivanov, author of the telegram channel "Protesting MSU" (*Moscow State University). The police struck the student on the head and ribs with numerous blows of his truncheon, attempted to force his head into a toilet basin and threatened him with sexual assault.

ADMINISTRATIVE CASES

5601

cases under Article 20.3.3 ("Discreditation")

A case under 20.3.3 of the criminal code continues to be applied against almost any public action connected to Ukraine. So, in Tula oblast an administrative case under an article for discrediting the Russian army **was instigated** against a DJ in a cafe for playing a song by the Ukrainian group *Potap and Nastya*, which he played during the New Year's TV address from Vladimir Putin.



Источник: Медиазона • [Скачать данные](#) • Создано с помощью [Datawrapper](#)

EXTRAJUDICIAL PRESSURE

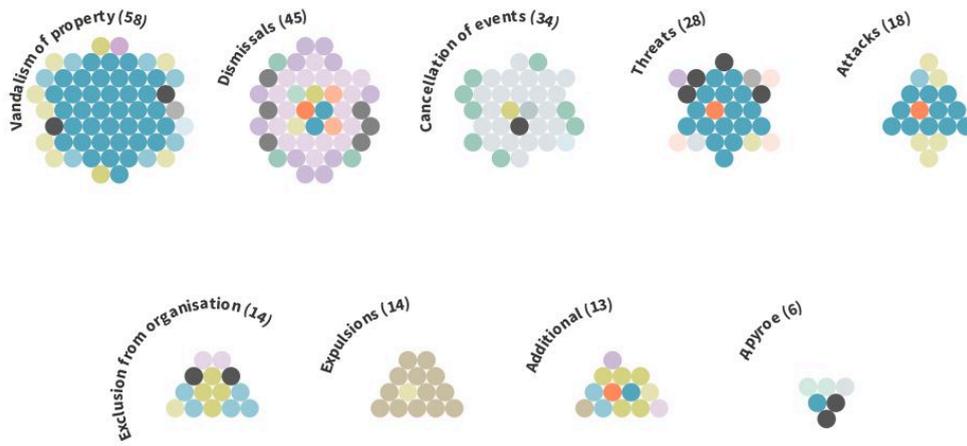
230

cases of extrajudicial pressure on people with an anti-war position

Among the consequences this month, the main ones are dismissal.

Therefore, national artist of the RF Dmitry Nazarov and his wife Olga Vasilyeva **were fired** from the Chekhov Moscow Arts Theatre - one of Russia's most prestigious theaters.

Likewise two teachers were fired from HRI HSE (*Higher Research Institute - the Higher School of Economics, a major Russian university) – **Dinara Gagarina** and **Ilya Inishev**, and the Moscow school teacher **Tatyana Chervenko**.



Occupation: activist, art worker, builder, clergyman, comedian, deputy, doctor, human rights defender, journalist, lawyer, lecturer, musician, official, politician, schoolchild, scientist, student, teacher, theatre

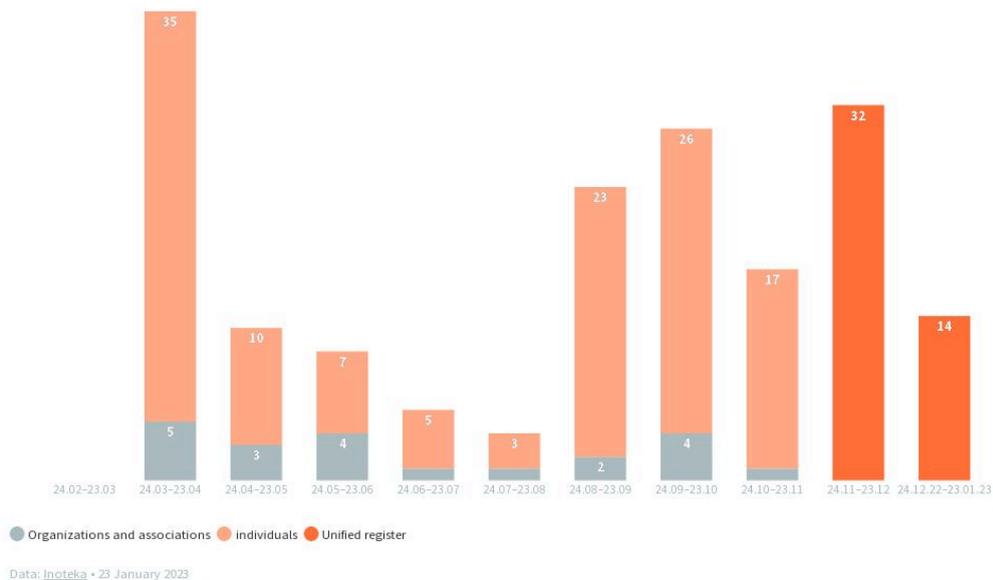
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"FOREIGN AGENTS" AND "UNDESIRABLE ORGANIZATIONS"

36

new "foreign agents" were listed by the Ministry of Justice between 24 December and 24 November

220 individuals, organizations and associations were recognized as “foreign agents” in 11 months



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The blogger and journalist Michael Nacke **was added** to the register of “foreign agents” for an interview with Ukrainian publications and for comparing Russia to Nazi Germany.

This is indicated by a document from the Ministry of Justice, which was **published** by Nacke.

The authorities **approved** the regulation on state control of “foreign agents”: this requires checking documents, attending events and fixes the procedure for liquidating a “foreign agent” should any violations occur.

From 24 December to 24 January the Russian authorities recognised two organizations as “undesirable” - the “Russian Anti-War Committee in Sweden” and the “Andrei Sakharov Fund.” 24 organizations have been added to the list since February 24.

BLOCKING AND CENSORSHIP



**resources were blocked by Roskomnadzor
from 24.12.23 to 20.01.23**

According to the independent project “[Roskomsvoboda](#)” almost 10,000 sites have been blocked as part of “war censorship.” A [new domain](#) of the tv channel *Dozhd’* [tvrain.tv](#) was blocked, 8 [Ukrainian](#) internet publications, the projects “[Khochu Zhit’\(I want to live\)](#)” and “[Vam Pokhoronku \(It’s your funeral\)](#)”, as well as the project advising how to avoid mobilization “[24.02.2022.- Witnesses](#)”.

Of the 306 pages [blocked](#) by the Russian censors since the beginning of December, 216 connected to LGBTQ+ are on the website “Changing your gender and gay sex are cool”, that publishes satirical texts and anti-war comments.

Moreover, the military prosecutor has [requested](#) the blocking of the United Nations Organization (UN) site in Russia.

PRESSURE ON INDEPENDENT MEDIA

Novaya Gazeta (a leading independent Russian newspaper) [was fined](#) the sum of 500,000 roubles (7,268 USD) for an article discrediting the Russian army. The court also [fined](#) the rap-artist Oxxxymiron (*listed as a foreign agent) 70,000 roubles (1,017 USD) because he called for the separation of St Petersburg from Russia in his song “Oyda”.

At the request of the censors Yandex Music [deleted](#) an issue of the podcast “Kolezev and Mikitas’”, where Dmitry Kolezev, the editor-in-chief of the Republic journal and journalist Olga Mikitas’ discussed the most recent news.

Employees of the telegram channel “Perm 36.6”, together with parents were [summoned](#) for questioning by the police

who later **requested** that all videos were deleted and the project closed. Otherwise, as the law-enforcement agents advised, project participants were under threat of being subject to a criminal case for extremism.

PRESSURE ON CIVIL SOCIETY

Former candidate for the State Duma and his wife **were rudely awakened** by a search in their apartment around 6am when both were forced face-down to the floor. It was part of a series of searches conducted against the activists.

Representatives of the law-enforcement agencies applied force - Mikhail was **diagnosed** with chest contusion and bruising. Later the court **arrested** Mikhail Lobanov for 15 days for disobedience to a police officer.

- Repressions in Russia in 2022. [An OVD-Info overview](#)
- 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.

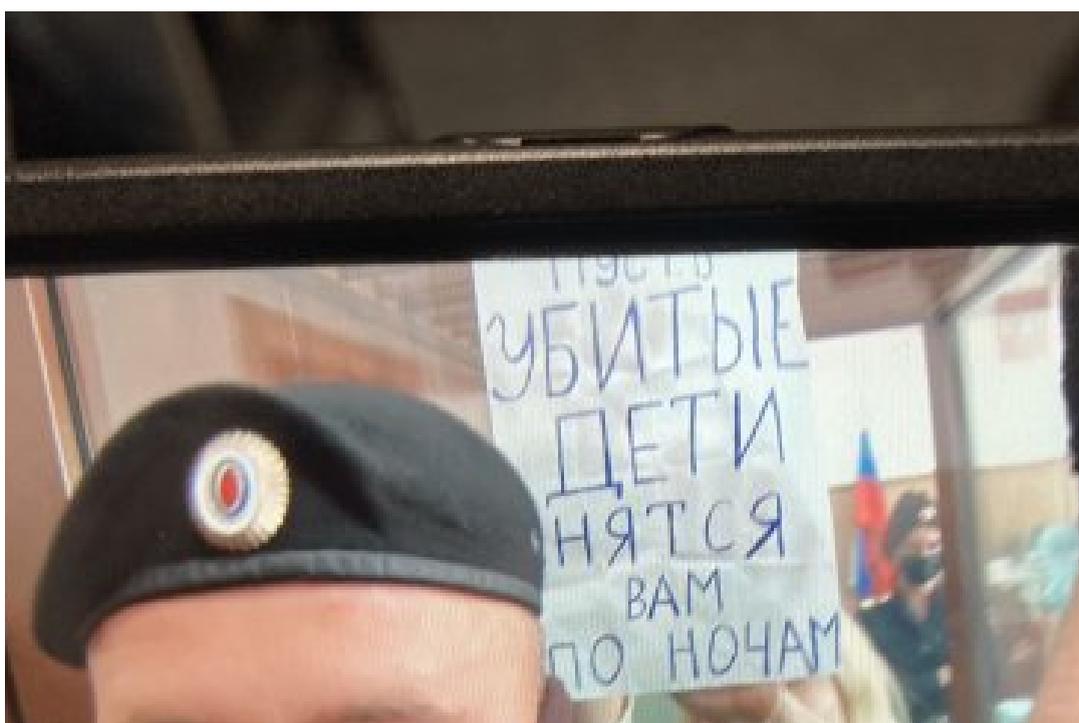
Main photo: Ekaterina Kotsar with a poster “No War!” on Red Square, 22 January 2023. Photo: bystander

More to read



The strangling of Crimea

Denis Shedov and Dan Storyev explain how the repression in occupied Crimea was structured and how it evolved



Wartime repressions: six months of war

Six months ago, Russia started a military aggression in Ukraine. In addition to killing civilians in Ukraine, the Russian state continues repressions inside the country.