

Rights in Russia Week-ending 29 December 2023

- Russia's war on Ukraine
- The command of the Ukrainian military's Airborne Assault Forces said on December 28 that three Ukrainian POWs whose alleged execution by Russian forces is being investigated by the Prosecutor-General's Office served in the 82nd Separate Airborne Assault Brigade. ([RFE/RL](#), 29/12/23)
- Many women are staging public protests and writing open letters taking to task the official narrative that mobilised troops are required in Russia's war in Ukraine. ([The Moscow Times](#), [25/12/23](#); [29/12/23](#))
- The Kremlin is investing in movements of wives and mothers who support the war in Ukraine and promote traditional values to counter the growing influence of protesting relatives of soldiers. ([The Moscow Times](#), 26/12/23)
- A Moscow court on December 28 sentenced poets Artyom Kamardin and Yegor Shtovba to seven and 5 1/2 years in prison on charges of "inciting hatred and calling for anti-state activities" for publicly reciting verses condemning Russia's invasion of Ukraine. ([RFE/RL](#), 28/12/23)
- Law enforcement officials on 29/12 were quoted as saying a new probe on a charge of distributing "fake" information about the Russian armed forces has been launched against Russian lawyer and outspoken Kremlin critic Ilya Novikov, who lives in Ukraine. ([RFE/RL](#), 29/12/23)
- Russia has issued an international arrest warrant for opposition politician Anastasia Bryukhanova under its wartime censorship laws, the state-run TASS news agency [reported](#) Wednesday. ([The Moscow Times](#), 28/12/23)
- Navalny
- Allies of the jailed Russian opposition leader [Alexei Navalny](#) expressed relief on reading a message from Navalny saying he was "fine", relief tempered by grave concern about the harsh conditions he faces in the Arctic prison known as "Polar Wolf". ([The Guardian](#), [27/12/23](#); [27/12/23](#))
- A court in Siberia has sentenced Ksenia Fadeyeva, Navalny's former Tomsk regional coordinator, to nine years in prison on charges of creating an "extremist organization. ([The Moscow Times](#), 29/12/23)
- 'Elections'
- Russia's Supreme Court on 27/12 upheld the Central Election Commission's decision to bar journalist Yekaterina Duntsova - who has called for peace in Ukraine - from running for president. ([RFE/RL](#), [27/12/23](#); [23/12/23](#))
- Arrest warrants
- A Moscow court on December 27 issued an arrest warrant for Dmitry Dovgy, a former top official of the Investigative Committee and a former lawyer for Sergei Furgal, imprisoned former governor of the Khabarovsk region. ([RFE/RL](#), 27/12/23)
- Russian authorities have issued arrest warrants for popular animators [Oleg Kuvayev](#) and [Pavel Muntyan](#) and exiled opposition politician [Dmitry Gudkov](#). ([The Moscow Times](#), 26/12/23)
- LGBT rights
- Since the Russian Supreme Court banned the "international LGBT movement" in late November, an atmosphere of unease has settled over St. Petersburg's gay nightlife scene. ([The Moscow Times](#), 23/12/23)
- A Moscow court on December 27 sentenced noted queer blogger Khilmi Oleinik (aka Khilmi Forks) to three years in prison on a charge of producing and online distribution of pornographic images with his participation. ([RFE/RL](#), 27/12/23)

