

**Rights in Russia**  
**Week-ending 22 March 2024**

Russia's war on Ukraine	<p>Russia is now at "war" with Ukraine because of Western interference in what Moscow previously called a "special military operation," Kremlin spokesman Dmitri Peskov said. (<a href="#">RFE/RL</a>, 21/3/24)</p> <p>Russian lawmakers voted on Tuesday to <u>allow</u> future suspected or convicted criminals to join the military, thus expanding the wartime practice of recruiting prisoners to fight in Ukraine. (<a href="#">The Moscow Times</a>, 19/3/24)</p> <p>Krasnoyarsk authorities said several prisons will be closed after numbers of inmates fell due to military recruitment. (<a href="#">The Moscow Times</a>, 21/3/24)</p> <p>Filmmaker Vsevolod Korolyov who criticized the war against Ukraine, was sentenced to three years in prison. (<a href="#">The Moscow Times</a>, 20/3/24)</p> <p>Russia refused to extend the visa for Spanish journalist Xavier Colas for covering anti-war rallies by Russian women. (<a href="#">RFE/RL</a>, 21/3/24)</p>
Aleksei Navalny	<p>President Putin said he agreed to swap Aleksei Navalny several days before the opposition leader died in prison last month. (<a href="#">RFE/RL</a>, 17/3/24)</p> <p>A Russian court rejected a lawsuit filed by the mother of late Kremlin critic Aleksei Navalny against guards of a prison where he died last month for refusing to provide her son with medical assistance. (<a href="#">RFE/RL</a>, 21/3/24)</p> <p>A court sentenced SotaVision journalist Antonina Favorskaya to 10 days in jail after visiting the grave of Aleksei Navalny. (<a href="#">RFE/RL</a>, 19/3/24)</p> <p>Apple, at the direction of Roskomnadzor, has removed an app by Navalny's team to help users vote for candidates other than Putin. (<a href="#">RFE/RL</a>, 22/3/24)</p>
'Elections'	<p>Independent election watchdog Golos, whose co-director is in jail, said it found unprecedented levels of fraud in elections the international community has called a "sham."(<a href="#">The Guardian</a>, 18/3/24; <a href="#">RFE/RL</a>, 21/3/24)</p> <p>Yulia Navalnaya dismissed Vladimir Putin's election victory as having "no meaning." (<a href="#">The Moscow Times</a>, 19/3/24)</p> <p>Vasily Gorelikov, a supporter of Boris Nadezhdin detained while conducting an exit poll, was sentenced to five days in jail. (<a href="#">RFE/RL</a>, 18/3/24)</p> <p>A St. Petersburg court <u>ordered the arrest</u> of Alexandra Chiryatyeva who wrote "no to war" on her voting ballot. (<a href="#">The Moscow Times</a>, 20/3/24)</p>
LGBT rights	<p>Authorities arrested Diana Kamilyanova and Alexander Klimov, employees of a gay club, as part of the first criminal "extremism" case against members of the LGBTQ+ community. (<a href="#">The Moscow Times</a>, <a href="#">The Guardian</a>, 20/3/24)</p>
HRDs	<p>Migrant rights activist Tatiana Kotlyar was fined 450,000 rubles on charges of illegally registering foreigners at her home. (<a href="#">The Moscow Times</a>, 18/3/24)</p> <p>A court ordered the <u>arrest</u> in absentia of Vladimir Osechkin, founder of the prisoners' rights NGO Gulagu.net. (<a href="#">The Moscow Times</a>, 21/3/24)</p>
FoE	<p>Tatar journalist Ruslan Aysin has been charged with breaking 'foreign agent' restrictions and 'rehabilitation of Nazism'. (<a href="#">The Moscow Times</a>, 19/3/24)</p> <p>The websites of Russian independent news outlet SOTA and Nobel Peace Prize-winner Memorial Center for Protection of Human Rights have been blocked by Roskomnadzor. (<a href="#">RFE/RL</a>, 21/3/24)</p>

