

FOURTH ANNIVERSARY OF THE FULL-SCALE WAR IN UKRAINE

POLITICALLY MOTIVATED
CRIMINAL PROSECUTIONS
AND IMPRISONMENT IN RUSSIA
AND THE OCCUPIED TERRITORIES

2022–2026

Data as of 18 February 2026





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OVERALL SCALE OF REPRESSION

Table 1. Total number of individuals subjected to politically motivated criminal prosecution in Russia and the occupied territories in connection with the war in Ukraine, where proceedings began after 2022

INDICATOR	NUMBER OF PEOPLE
Currently deprived of liberty	3 059
Sentences handed down	2 730
Acquittals	0
Sentences involving custodial imprisonment	2 302
Individuals prosecuted in politically motivated cases since 2022	4 029

Source: Political Prisoners. Memorial

IMPORTANT: *These figures are based on verified monitoring data and represent the minimum number of established cases. Owing to restricted access to information and the opacity of the judicial system, the actual figures are likely to be significantly higher.*



GEOGRAPHY OF REPRESSION

Top 10 Regions by Number of Individuals Presently Imprisoned in Politically Motivated Cases Linked to the War Since 2022

Table 2. Regions with the highest number of individuals currently deprived of liberty in politically motivated criminal cases connected to the war in Ukraine, 2022–2026

REGION	NUMBER OF PEOPLE
1. Kursk Region	346
2. Donetsk Region	289
3. Moscow and Moscow Region	249
4. Crimea and Sevastopol	212
5. Zaporizhzhia Region	170
6. Kherson Region	123
7. St Petersburg and Leningrad Region	113
8. Luhansk Region	105
9. Krasnodar Territory	83
10. Rostov Region	72

Table 3. Number of individuals deprived of liberty in the occupied Ukrainian regions alone in politically motivated cases connected to the war in Ukraine, where proceedings began after 2022

REGION	NUMBER OF PEOPLE
Occupied Ukrainian territories Kherson, Zaporizhzhia, Donetsk, Luhansk regions, Crimea, Sevastopol	899

Source: Political Prisoners. Memorial

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CITIZENSHIP OF THOSE DEPRIVED OF LIBERTY

Table 4. Citizenship of individuals currently deprived of liberty in Russia and the occupied territories in politically motivated cases connected to the war in Ukraine

CITIZENSHIP	NUMBER OF PEOPLE
Russian Federation	1614
Ukraine	1277
Dual citizenship: Russia + Ukraine	121
Other nationalities	47

Source: Political Prisoners. Memorial

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MOST COMMON CHARGES

Russian Nationals

Table 5. Most frequently applied Criminal Code articles under which Russian citizens are currently deprived of liberty in politically motivated cases connected to the war in Ukraine

ARTICLES	NUMBER OF PEOPLE
275 Treason	473
205 Act of terrorism	317
205.2 Public calls to engage in terrorism and its justification	298

Source: Political Prisoners. Memorial

All articles include **all parts of the relevant provisions, including incomplete offences.**

One individual may face multiple charges.

IMPORTANT: *These figures are based on verified monitoring data and represent the minimum number of established cases. Owing to restricted access to information and the opacity of the judicial system, the actual figures are likely to be significantly higher.*



Ukrainian Civilians

Table 6. Most frequently applied Criminal Code articles under which Ukrainian civilians are currently deprived of liberty in politically motivated cases connected to the war in Ukraine

ARTICLE	NUMBER OF PEOPLE
275 Treason	199
205 Act of terrorism	159
276 Espionage	152

Source: Political Prisoners. Memorial

All articles include **all parts of the relevant provisions, including incomplete offences.**

One individual may face multiple charges.

At least **six civilians** are charged simultaneously under Articles 275 and 276

According to our project, currently imprisoned in Russia and the occupied Ukrainian territories in connection with criminal prosecution:

At least **551 Ukrainian civilians**

IMPORTANT: *These figures are based on verified monitoring data and represent the minimum number of established cases. Owing to restricted access to information and the opacity of the judicial system, the actual figures are likely to be significantly higher.*



Ukrainian Servicemen

Table 7. Most frequently applied Criminal Code articles under which Ukrainian servicemen are currently deprived of liberty in politically motivated cases connected to the war in Ukraine

ARTICLE	NUMBER OF PEOPLE
205 Act of terrorism	342
205.4 Organisation of a terrorist group and participation in it	195
205.3 Undergoing training for the purpose of carrying out terrorist activities	183

Source: Political Prisoners. Memorial

All articles include **all parts of the relevant provisions, including incomplete offences.**

One individual may face multiple charges.

Since 2022, at least **39 Ukrainians** have been sentenced to life imprisonment

According to our project, currently imprisoned in Russia and the occupied Ukrainian territories in connection with criminal prosecution:

at least **726 Ukrainian servicemen**

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ARSON AND SABOTAGE

General Data

Table 8. Individuals charged in criminal cases concerning sabotage, arson, and explosions since 2022

INDICATOR	NUMBER OF PEOPLE
Minors at the time of detention	123
Minors currently deprived of liberty	117
Currently deprived of liberty	648
Individuals charged since 2022	731

Source: Political Prisoners. Memorial

Top Five Regions of Arrest

Table 9. Regions in which individuals accused of arson and sabotage — who are currently deprived of liberty — were detained

REGION	NUMBER OF PEOPLE
1. Moscow and Moscow Region	58
2. St Petersburg and Leningrad Region	41
3. Zaporizhzhia Region	38
4. Crimea and Sevastopol	34
5. Krasnoyarsk Territory	33

Source: Political Prisoners. Memorial

IMPORTANT: These figures are based on verified monitoring data and represent the minimum number of established cases. Owing to restricted access to information and the opacity of the judicial system, the actual figures are likely to be significantly higher.



Most Common Charges

Table 10. Most frequently applied Criminal Code articles under which individuals accused of arson and sabotage are currently deprived of liberty

ARTICLE	NUMBER OF PEOPLE
205–205.5 Terrorism-related articles	330
281 Sabotage	271
167 Intentional destruction or damage to property	16

Source: Political Prisoners. Memorial

All articles include **all parts of the relevant provisions, including incomplete offences.**

IMPORTANT: *These figures are based on verified monitoring data and represent the minimum number of established cases. Owing to restricted access to information and the opacity of the judicial system, the actual figures are likely to be significantly higher.*

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If you know of any cases of illegal politically motivated prosecution, please contact us through our [CHATBOT](#) or at HELP.POLITICAL.PRISONERS@MEMOHRC.ORG

