

The information is aggregated from open source online resources and our own practice. In these newsletters, we will update you in brief on everyday human rights violations in numbers and facts.

## **Saturday 2 July 2022 to Friday 8 July 2022**

Human Constanta expresses its [solidarity](#) with the people of Ukraine. We urge the international community to prioritize the voices and stories of Ukrainians, highlight violations of human rights and international law, call for accountability for the actions of the aggressor, and [support the most vulnerable groups fleeing the war without discrimination](#).

### **List of people involved in terrorist activities has been updated**

On 5 July 2022, the State Security Committee (KGB) [included three Belarusians](#) in the list of people involved in terrorist activities. The list was updated with Viktor Kotovsky and Aleksey Senko, who were detained for commenting on the death of a KGB employee, Dmitry Fedosyuk, and an IT specialist, Andrei Zeltser (the so-called '[Zeltser case](#)'), alongside Marina Senkevich, who is accused of "inciting hatred" and "mass riots," allegedly for making critical comments about the authorities and participating in protests.

On 7 July 2022, [the list was updated with five more people](#): surgeon Andrei Lyubetsky, convicted of participating in protests and criticizing the authorities; 'rail guerillas' Sergei Konovalov and Sergei Glybko, accused of damaging railway equipment in order to stop the movement of Russian troops across Belarus; Vladimir Ogievich and Vadim Smirnov, also accused in the 'Zeltser case.'

For more information on trends in the application of anti-extremist laws for the period April-June 2022, see [the review prepared by Human Constanta](#).

### **Persecution related to Russian aggression against Ukraine**

On 4 July 2022, pro-government sources reported that [Andrei Raptunovich](#), who had expressed a desire to take part in the resistance to Russian aggression in Ukraine as part of the Kalinovsky regiment, was charged by the Investigative Committee with "extremist activity:" participation in an extremist formation (Article 361-1 of the Criminal Code) and preparation for participation in hostilities on the territory of a foreign state (Article 361-3 of the Criminal Code). Meanwhile, more members of the said regiment lost their lives to the war – the regiment's commander [Ivan "Brest" Marchuk](#) died in the Lisichansk battle. He is the 8th Belarusian volunteer fight to fall victim to the war.

On 5 July 2022, the court of the Kirovsky district of the Mogilev region sentenced student [Danuta Peredne](#) to 6.5 years in prison for incitement to harm national security (Article 361-3 of the Criminal Code) and insulting the president (368-1 of the Criminal Code). The punishment was imposed for reposting in a local social media chat a publication that sharply criticized the actions of Vladimir Putin and Alexander Lukashenko regarding the war in Ukraine.

On 5 July 2022, a resident of Homel, [Yuri Zaretsky](#), was sentenced to 3 months of arrest for anti-war graffiti, and a resident of Kobrin, [Vladimir Kovalev](#), was sentenced to 2 years of restraint of liberty for identical acts.

On 6 July 2022, it became known about the 15 day arrest of Gomel photographer [Sergei Lysenko](#) for participating in a holiday for the children of Ukrainian refugees in a local park, which was dispersed by the police. Lysenko himself denies participation in the holiday and claims that he ended up in the park by accident.

## **Repression of independent journalists on the rise**

On 4 July 2022, the Gomel Regional Court began considering a criminal case against a journalist and now political prisoner [Ekaterina Andreeva](#), who was sentenced to 2 years in prison in February 2021 for covering news of protests and streaming live. At the moment, Andreeva is charged with high treason under Article 356 of the Criminal Code. However, it is unknown what other actions she might be judged on, since the process is being held behind closed doors. She faces up to 15 years in prison.

On 7 July 2022, the General Prosecutor's Office sent the case of [Ksenia Lutskina](#), an ex-journalist of the state television agency, Belteleradiocompany. She is charged with conspiracy to seize state power under Article 357 of the Criminal Code for trying to create an alternative public television, as well as for editing the texts of statements and public speeches of the Coordination Council of Belarusian democratic forces. She faces up to 12 years in prison.

## **Deprivation of citizenship on political grounds**

On 5 July 2022, information appeared that the Council of the Republic is working on a draft law that introduces a rule on the [possibility of revoking the citizenship of Belarus](#) from people against whom a sentence has been passed on the participation in extremist activities or causing serious harm to the interests of the state.

## **Political prisoners**

The total number of political prisoners in Belarus is [1232](#). The number continues to grow daily.