

# Russia



## Sunni Muslims

Sunni Muslims remain the largest religious group imprisoned for their religious activities. Accusations of involvement in terrorism often result in decades in prison, despite no evidence of defendants advocating for or participating in violence. Authorities use these allegations to imprison Muslim Crimean Tatar activists opposed to Russia's illegal occupation of Crimea.



### Amet Suleymanov

**RELIGION OR BELIEF:**  
Sunni

**ARRESTED:**  
March 11, 2020

**SENTENCE:**  
12 Years' Imprisonment

**HEALTH CONCERNS:**  
Heart Disease

**REASON FOR PERSECUTION:**  
Alleged membership in Hizb ut-Tahrir

## Protesters & Human Rights Defenders

Following Russia's 2022 invasion of Ukraine, Russian authorities have unleashed the largest crackdown on independent Russian civil society since the end of the Soviet Union. Law enforcement have arrested human rights defenders known for supporting religious freedom and dissidents using religious language to oppose the war.



### Mikhail Simonov

**RELIGION OR BELIEF:**  
Russian Orthodox

**ARRESTED:**  
November 9, 2022

**SENTENCE:**  
7 Years' Imprisonment

**HEALTH CONCERNS:**  
Heart Disease

**REASON FOR PERSECUTION:**  
Criticized Russia's invasion of Ukraine with religious language

## Jehovah's Witnesses

Jehovah's Witnesses face severe repression for their religion. Since declaring the group "extremist" in 2017, authorities have prosecuted Jehovah's Witnesses for their peaceful religious activities, including discussing the Bible, having worship services, and singing religious songs.



### Andrey Vlasov

**RELIGION OR BELIEF:**  
Jehovah's Witness

**ARRESTED:**  
July 12, 2020

**SENTENCE:**  
7 Years' Imprisonment

**HEALTH CONCERNS:**  
Disability, Heart Disease

**REASON FOR PERSECUTION:**  
Held discussions about the Bible

## Ukrainian Religious Leaders

Since Russia launched its full-scale invasion of Ukraine in 2022, its military has committed gross violations against Ukrainian religious communities, often targeting religious leaders. Russian forces have harassed, threatened, forced into exiled, detained, forcibly disappeared, tortured, and killed religious figures in order to exert control and subjugate local populations.



### Bohdan Geleta

**RELIGION OR BELIEF:**  
Greek Catholic

**DISAPPEARED:**  
November 2022

**CURRENT STATUS:**  
Unknown

**HEALTH CONCERNS:**  
Diabetes

**REASON FOR PERSECUTION:**  
Religious leader in Russian-occupied Ukraine

## FoRB Victims List Stats 449 out of 2,125

Religion or Belief	# of Victims
Sunni	238
Jehovah's Witnesses	190
Protestant	12
Unspecified	3
Catholic	2
Orthodox	2
Scientologist	1
Shaman	1
<b>Total</b>	<b>449</b>

Type of Abuse	# of Victims
Imprisoned	357
Detained	57
House Arrest	27
Disappeared	8
<b>Total</b>	<b>449</b>

## Average Prison Sentence 10 Years, 8 Months

Reports of	# of Victims
Torture	14
Medical Neglect	13
<b>Total</b>	<b>27</b>

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## Frank R. Wolf FoRB Victims List Background

The International Religious Freedom Act of 1998 (IRFA), as amended by the Frank R. Wolf International Religious Freedom Act of 2016, requires USCIRF to:

*make publicly available, to the extent practicable...lists of persons it determines are imprisoned or detained, have disappeared, been placed under house arrest, been tortured, or subjected to forced renunciation of faith for their religious activity or religious freedom advocacy by the government of a foreign country that the Commission recommends for designation as a country of particular concern [CPC]...or by a nonstate actor that the Commission recommends for designation as an entity of particular concern [EPC].*

USCIRF developed the Frank R. Wolf Freedom of Religion or Belief (FoRB) Victims List—an online public database—to implement this provision for countries USCIRF recommends for Country of Particular Concern (CPC) or Special Watch List (SWL) status. The list also includes such victims located in the de facto territories of nonstate actors that USCIRF recommends for Entity of Particular Concern (EPC) status, according to the same criteria.

Due to limited resources, USCIRF is unable to identify and document all victims that meet the statutory requirement to be included on the FoRB Victims List and generally relies on receiving submissions from outside individuals and organizations. As such, the information contained in the database does not reflect country, regional, or global trends. Furthermore, percentages highlighted in this section should not be used for extrapolation purposes nor interpreted as a particular group experiencing greater violations than another or a particular country committing violations at a greater rate than others. To support this project, USCIRF invites those with credible information on victims to submit information using the Victims List Intake Form at [www.uscirtf.gov/form/uscirtf-victims-list-intake-form](http://www.uscirtf.gov/form/uscirtf-victims-list-intake-form).

## FoRB Victims List Stats Overall

Perpetrator	Victims Documented
Algeria	5
Azerbaijan	11
Burma	5
China	770
Cuba	11
Egypt	18
Eritrea	50
Hay'at Tahrir al-Sham (HTS)	2
Houthis	3
India	55
Indonesia	8
Iran	339
Iraq	2
Islamic State in West Africa Province (ISWAP)	1
Kazakhstan	15
Malaysia	4
Nicaragua	15
Nigeria	9
North Korea	9
Pakistan	90
Russia	449
Saudi Arabia	46
Sri Lanka	1
Tajikistan	13
Turkmenistan	30
Uzbekistan	87
Vietnam	77
<b>Total</b>	<b>2,125</b>

Religion or Belief	Victims Documented
Adivasi	1
Baha'i	163
Bon	1
Buddhist – Hoa Hao	6
Buddhist – Theravada	3
Buddhist – Tibetan	76
Buddhist – Unspecified/Other	28
Christian – Catholic	46
Christian – Church of Almighty God	236
Christian – Jehovah's Witness	258
Christian – Orthodox	17
Christian – Protestant	130
Christian – Unspecified/Other	66
Duong Van Minh	4
ECKist (Eckankar)	1
Erfan-e Halgheh Practitioner	2
Falun Gong	213
Hindu	10
Humanist	1
Jewish	1
Muslim – Ahmadiyya	23
Muslim – Qur'anist	1
Muslim – Shi'a	39
Muslim – Sufi	63
Muslim – Sunni	385
Muslim – Unspecified/Other	237
Santeria	5
Scientologist	1
Shaman	1
Sikh	1
Yarsani	37
Unknown/Unspecified	69
<b>Total</b>	<b>2,125</b>

# Russia



## Not Released

Aleksandr Gabyshev  
 Aleksandr Rumyantsev  
 Aleksey Solnechny  
 Anatoliy Li  
 Andrey Tolmachev  
 Aram Danielyan  
 Artur Putintsev  
 Boris Andreyev  
 Denis Kuzyanin  
 Denis Sarzhakov  
 Eduard Sviridov  
 Garegin Khachatryan  
 Gevorg Yeritsyan  
 Igor Popov  
 Inver Siyukhov  
 Ioann Kurmoyarov  
 Lubov Galitsina  
 Marat Bazarbayev  
 Mikhail Moysh  
 Mykhailo Britsyn  
 Natalya Sharapova  
 Nikolay Martynov  
 Nikolay Saparov  
 Nikolay Vasiliyev  
 Nikolay Voishchev  
 Said Abu Mustafa  
 Sean Pike  
 Sergey Gromov  
 Sergey Kosteyev  
 Sergey Novoselov  
 Sergey Polosenko  
 Sergey Romanov  
 Vadim Nasyrov  
 Vladimir Melnik  
 Vladimir Piskarev  
 Yaroslav Kalin  
 Yuriy Bycha  
 Bohdan Geleta  
 Ivan Levitsky  
 Aleksandr Votyakov  
 Artem Velichko  
 Dmitriy Dolzhikov  
 Dmytro Naukhatsky  
 Ivan Neverov  
 Kishta Tutinova  
 Leysan Bochkareva  
 Mikhail Shevchuk  
 Oleksandr Sizikov  
 Sergey Vasilyev  
 Tatyana Obizhestvit  
 Valeriy Rabota  
 Viktor Shayapov  
 Vitaliy Ushakov  
 Yegor Pogrebnyak  
 Abdulkakor Mumindzhanov  
 Adam Svarichevskiy  
 Aidar Aidarbekov  
 Aidar Tashbulatov  
 Aider Saledinov  
 Airat Shakirov  
 Akim Bekirov  
 Akmalchon Numonchonov  
 Alam Aliyev  
 Albert Shafiyev  
 Albert Valiullin  
 Aleksandr Filatov  
 Aleksandr Dubovenko  
 Aleksandr Ivshin  
 Aleksandr Korolev  
 Aleksandr Litvinyuk  
 Aleksandr Nikolayev  
 Aleksandr Parkov  
 Aleksandr Putintsev  
 Aleksandr Seredkin  
 Aleksandr Shevchuk  
 Aleksandr Skvortsov  
 Aleksey Berchuk

Aleksey Dyadkin  
 Aleksey Goreliy  
 Aleksey Trofimov  
 Alexander Kornev  
 Alidzhon Odinayev  
 Alim Karimov  
 Alim Sufianov  
 Alim Timkanov  
 Alisher Khusenov  
 Almaz Usmanov  
 Amet Suleymanov  
 Ametkhan Abdulvapov  
 Amir Khakimullin  
 Anas Gimazetdinov  
 Anatoliy Gorbunov  
 Anatoliy Marunov  
 Andrey Danielyan  
 Andrey Stupnikov  
 Andrey Vlasov  
 Anna Safronova  
 Ansar Osmanov  
 Anton Olshevskiy  
 Aramis Fazylov  
 Arsen Abkhairov  
 Arsen Avanesov  
 Arslan Salimzyanov  
 Artem Gerasimov  
 Artur Salimov  
 Artur Valov  
 Artyom Naumov  
 Asan Yanikov  
 Asgat Khafizov  
 Aydar Sageyev  
 Azamat Eyupov  
 Azamat Kayumov  
 Azat Adiyev  
 Azat Gataullin  
 Azat Lukmanov  
 Azat Zagiyev  
 Aziz Khidirbayev  
 Azizbek Inamov  
 Bakhrom Khamroev  
 Batyr Mukhametov  
 Bilyal Adilov  
 Bulat Makhmutov  
 Bulat Rakhmanov  
 Damir Abdrafikov  
 Danil Bagautdinov  
 Danil Kunakbayev  
 Danil Suvorov  
 Danis Abdarakhmanov  
 Danis Faizrakhmanov  
 Denis Antonov  
 Denis Peresunko  
 Denis Zagitdinov  
 Dmitriy Golik  
 Dmitriy Malevaniy  
 Dmitriy Terebilov  
 Dmitriy Zagulin  
 Dzhebbbar Bekirov  
 Edem Smailov  
 Eduard Nizamov  
 Eldar Kantemirov  
 Elena Nikulina  
 Emil Dzhemadenov  
 Emil Shangareyev  
 Emil Ziyadinov  
 Emir-Usein Kuku  
 Enver Ametov  
 Enver Mamutov  
 Erfan Osmanov  
 Ernes Ametov  
 Ernes Seytosmanov  
 Ernest Ibragimov  
 Eskender Abdulganiev  
 Eskender Suleymanov  
 Fanis Akhmetshin

Farid Kryev  
 Farid Mustafayev  
 Farit Kharisov  
 Farit Sharifullin  
 Farkhod Bazarov  
 Farkhod Nodirov  
 Farrukh Makhkamov  
 Farrukh Mamayusupov  
 Gabdrakhman Naumov  
 Georgiy Nikulin  
 Igor Egozaryan  
 Igor Mamalimov  
 Igor Schmidt  
 Ilgiz Gimaletdinov  
 Ilgiz Salakhov  
 Inar Zinnatov  
 Inar Zyalilov  
 Inaz Safiullin  
 Ilshat Battalov  
 Ilсур Galeev  
 Inver Bekirov  
 Irek Mukhametov  
 Irek Nasirov  
 Irek Tagirov  
 Ismail Isaev  
 Ismet Ibragimov  
 Ivan Chaykovskiy  
 Ivan Matsitsky  
 Izzet Abdullayev  
 Khalil Mustafin  
 Khamid Igamberdiyev  
 Khiramagomed Magomedov  
 Khunar Agayev  
 Komil Matiev  
 Konstantin Sannikov  
 Lenar Mukhamadeev  
 Lenar Saitov  
 Lenur Khalilov  
 Lenur Seydametov  
 Leonid Druzhinin  
 Linar Vakhitov  
 Lyudmila Shchekoldina  
 Maksim Beltikov  
 Maksim Puygin  
 Marat Saybatalov  
 Marat Tulyakov  
 Marlen Asanov  
 Marlen Mustafayev  
 Marsel Gimaliev  
 Medzhit Abdurakhmanov  
 Memet Belyalov  
 Mikhail Burkov  
 Mikhail Simonov  
 Mikhail Toptygin  
 Mirzobakhovaddin Kurbonov  
 Mukazhan Ksyupov  
 Murodzhon Sattorov  
 Muslim Aliyev  
 Nail Miniakhmetov  
 Nail Yunusov  
 Naimdjon Khodjayev  
 Nikita Moiseyev  
 Nikolai Ulitin  
 Nikolay Stepanov  
 Niyaz Ziyattinov  
 Oleg Danilov  
 Oleg Fedorov  
 Oleg Shidlovskiy  
 Olga Ivanova  
 Olga Panyuta  
 Osman Arifmemetov  
 Osman Seytumerov  
 Otabek Isomadidinov  
 Parviz Zeynalov  
 Pavel Kazadaev  
 Pavel Khevronin  
 Pyotr Zhiltsov

Radik Akhmetov  
 Radik Imangulov  
 Radik Talipov  
 Radik Valiakhmetov  
 Radik Zaripov  
 Radmir Maksutov  
 Rafael Fattakhov  
 Rafis Idrissov  
 Rafis Khalilov  
 Raif Fevziyev  
 Rail Abdrakhmanov  
 Raim Ayyazov  
 Rainur Ibatullin  
 Refat Alimov  
 Remzi Bakirov  
 Remzi Memetov  
 Renat Galimov  
 Rinat Khannanov  
 Rinat Kiramov  
 Rinat Nurlygayanov  
 Rishat Girfanov  
 Riza Izzetov  
 Roman Baranovskiy  
 Roman Mareyev  
 Ruslan Bariev  
 Ruslan Fatkullin  
 Ruslan Fattakhov  
 Ruslan Fomin  
 Ruslan Gabidullin  
 Ruslan Ilyasov  
 Ruslan Mesutov  
 Ruslan Nahaev  
 Ruslan Rakhmatullin  
 Ruslan Suleimanov  
 Ruslan Sungatov  
 Ruslan Zainullin  
 Ruslan Zeitullayev  
 Rustam Diarov  
 Rustem Abiltarov  
 Rustem Emiruseinov  
 Rustem Gallyamov  
 Rustem Ismailov  
 Rustem Khamzin  
 Rustem Murasov  
 Rustem Salakhudtinov  
 Rustem Seytkhalilov  
 Rustem Seytmemetov  
 Rustem Sheikhaliev  
 Rustem Tairov  
 Rustem Yamaliev  
 Ruzim Davletshin  
 Salekh Magamadov  
 Sardobek Siddikov  
 Seiran Khairedinov  
 Seiran Murtaza  
 Sergei Derzhipilsky  
 Sergey Afanasiyev  
 Sergey Ananin  
 Sergey Filatov  
 Sergey Kardakov  
 Sergey Klikunov  
 Sergey Korolev  
 Sergey Kosyanenko  
 Sergey Lyulin  
 Sergey Melnik  
 Sergey Shatalov  
 Sergey Shulyarenko  
 Sergey Tolokonnikov  
 Sergey Yermilov  
 Sergey Yuferov  
 Server Mustafayev  
 Server Zekiryayev  
 Servet Gaziyev  
 Seyran Saliyev  
 Seytumer Seytumerov  
 Seytveli Seytabdiyev  
 Shaban Umerov

# Russia



## Not Released (continued)

Shahboz Makhmudov  
 Shamil Sharipov  
 Sobirdzhon Burkhoddini  
 Sukhrob Ironov  
 Svyatoslav Yugov  
 Taras Kuzio  
 Teimur Abdullayev  
 Timur Gadiyev  
 Timur Ibragimov  
 Timur Khabibullin  
 Timur Uzbekov  
 Timur Yalkabov  
 Tofik Abdulgazyev  
 Turatbek Osmonkulov  
 Ural Abdrakhimov

Ural Galiyev  
 Ural Yakupov  
 Urdash Abdullayev  
 Uzeir Abdullayev  
 Vadim Bektemirov  
 Vadim Davletbayev  
 Vadim Khabirov  
 Vadim Siruk  
 Valeriy Kriger  
 Valeriy Rogozin  
 Valeriy Slashchev  
 Vardan Zakaryan  
 Vasiliy Meleshko  
 Vasily Tkachyov  
 Viktor Stashevskiy

Vilen Avanesov  
 Vitaliy Komarov  
 Vladimir Bukin  
 Vladimir Ermolaev  
 Vladimir Maladyka  
 Vladimir Popov  
 Vladimir Sakada  
 Vladimir Skachidub  
 Vladlen Abdulkadyrov  
 Vyacheslav Vankov  
 Yaroslav Timofeyev  
 Yashar Muyedinov  
 Yashar Shykhmetov  
 Yevgeniy Bitusov  
 Yevgeniy Ivanov

Yevgeniy Korotun  
 Yevgeniy Razumov  
 Yevgeniy Zhukov  
 Yevgeniy Zinich  
 Yevgeniy Tarasov  
 Yuriy Chernyshev  
 Yuriy Yakovlev  
 Zafar Nodirov  
 Zafar Yakubov  
 Zavor Abdullayev  
 Zekirya Muratov  
 Zevri Abseitov  
 Zulfat Sabirzyanov

## Released

Aleksandr Akopov  
 Aleksey Bogatov  
 Andrey Bochkarev  
 Andrey Murych  
 Artem Kim  
 Ilmir Abdullin  
 Maksim Morozov  
 Nikolay Nesterovich  
 Saveliy Gargalyk  
 Sergey Tyurin  
 Shamil Sultanov  
 Snezhana Bazhenova  
 Valeriy Moskalenko  
 Valeriy Tibiy  
 Vladimir Mavrin  
 Vyacheslav Boronos  
 Yevgeniy Fedin  
 Yevgeniy Fomashin  
 Yevgeniy Kayryak  
 Yuriy Usanov  
 Artur Kozhevnikov

Leonid Ponomaryov  
 Mykhailo Reznikov  
 Serhiy Karpenko  
 Tatyana Ponomaryov  
 Valentin Zhuravlov  
 Anton Dergalev  
 Arsen Abdullaev  
 Ilkham Karimov  
 Khoren Khachikyan  
 Maksim Khalturin  
 Marat Abdulgalimov  
 Mariya Karpova  
 Mariya Troshina  
 Nataliya Sorokina  
 Sergei Parfenovich  
 Valentin Osadchuk  
 Yuriy Herashchenko  
 Airat Usmanov  
 Akhmet Dzhumayev  
 Aleksandr Shcherbina  
 Aleksey Budenchuk

Aleksey Miretskiy  
 Aleksey Ukhov  
 Aleksey Yershov  
 Andrey Andreyev  
 Andrey Kolesnichenko  
 Arsen Dzhhepparov  
 Artur Kaltuyev  
 Azamat Abutalipov  
 Bekzod Bakirov  
 Dennis Christensen  
 Dmitriy Barmakin  
 Feliks Makhhammadiyev  
 Gazybek Kubatov  
 Gennadiy German  
 Ibrahim Shavkatov  
 Ilgar Aliyev  
 Islambek Kamchybekov  
 Kanybek Uulu  
 Komil Odilov  
 Konstantin Bazhenov  
 Marat Dindarov

Ramil Gataullin  
 Renat Suleimanov  
 Roman Gridasov  
 Rustam Seidkuliev  
 Rustem Latypov  
 Sergey Britvin  
 Sergey Klimov  
 Sergey Polyakov  
 Shakir Kozhamkulov  
 Stanislav Moskvitin  
 Sukhrab Kaltuyev  
 Vadim Levchuk  
 Viktor Zimovskiy  
 Vladimir Alushkin  
 Vladimir Atrifakhin  
 Yuriy Savelyev  
 Ziyavdin Dapayev  
 Zufar Mustafin

## Unknown

Nikolai Bogoslavsky

## Died in Custody

Dzhemil Gafarov