

## Rights in Russia

*Week-ending Friday 27 June 2014*

- Foreign agent appeals dismissed** On 24/6, 26/6 and 27/6, a Moscow district court ruled against appeals by Golos, Yurix and Public Verdict not to have to register as “foreign agents”. (Amnesty International, 27/6)
- Freedom of expression**
- Twitter** On 23/6 head of the telecom regulator Roskomnadzor said Twitter Inc. had agreed to block access in Russia to accounts of a number of extremist organizations. Twitter later said it was in consultations with the Russian authorities, but did not intend to block pages at their request. (RAPSI, 23/6; HRO.org, 24/6)
- Oleg Sentsov** On 24/6 Amnesty International called on the Russian authorities to investigate allegations that Oleg Sentsov, the filmmaker arrested last month in Crimea on suspicion of plotting terrorist acts, has been tortured and otherwise ill-treated; to give detained Ukrainian citizens access to the Ukrainian consul; to return detainees from Crimea to that region; and to drop charges relating solely to freedom of expression and peaceful assembly. (Amnesty International, 24/6)
- On 25/6 Memorial hosted a screening in Moscow of the film "Gaamer" by Oleg Sentsov. (RFE/RL, 26/6)
- OSCE** On 25/6 OSCE Representative on Freedom of the Media Dunja Mijatović criticized amendments to the Criminal Code of the Russian Federation that could further increase government control of the Internet. (OSCE, 25/6)
- Book on Putin** On 26/6 U.S. publisher Simon & Schuster says it will release “Putin’s Kleptocracy: Who Owns Russia?” by Karen Dawisha on 16/6, a book rejected by a British publisher due to fears of potential libel suits. (RFE/RL, 26/6)
- St Petersburg**
- Neo-Nazis sentenced** On 24/6, 8 members of a St. Petersburg neo-Nazi group received prison sentences for crimes that included 10 murders and 5 attempted murders of foreigners. (The Moscow Times, 24/6)
- Hizb ut-Tahrir** On 26/6, Kirov district court in St. Petersburg said six suspected members of Hizb ut-Tahrir detained on 24/6 had been sent to 45-day pretrial detention. (RFE/RL, 26/6)
- North Caucasus**
- Two killed** On 26/6 police in the Republic of Daghestan killed two suspected militants in separate incidents. (RFE/RL, 26/6)
- One killed** On 27/6 police in the Republic of Daghestan killed a suspected militant in the southeastern Khiv district. (RFE/RL, 27/6)
- Registration of births**
- Hospitals only** The Justice Ministry has proposed a ban on registering babies born outside hospitals. (The Moscow Times, 26/6)