

**Flygtningenævnets baggrundsmateriale**

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|------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------|
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Denna rapport är en sammanställning grundad på Utrikesdepartementets bedömningar. Rapporten gör inte anspråk på att ge en fullständig bild av läget för de mänskliga rättigheterna, demokrati och rättsstatens principer i landet. Information bör också sökas från andra källor.

## Mänskliga rättigheter, demokrati och rättsstatens principer i Ukraina 2015–2016

### I. SAMMANFATTNING

Situationen för mänskliga rättigheter, demokrati och rättsstatens principer i Ukraina präglas av ansträngningar att bryta med det sovjetiska arvet och den utbredda korruptionen. En grundläggande utmaning är den pågående konflikten med Ryssland och den ukrainska statens faktiska möjligheter att garantera mänskliga rättigheter på hela sitt territorium.

Amnesty rapporterar om kränkningar av krimtatarers mänskliga rättigheter på Krim, och rapporter föreligger om dödshot och utbrett våld mot romer i Ukraina, bland annat från högerextrema grupper.

De senaste president- och parlamentsvalen genomfördes 2014 och bedömdes återspegla folkviljan och vara i huvudsak fria, pluralistiska och rättvisa. Det finns en aktiv opposition i parlamentet. Kvinnor är generellt underrepresenterade i både politik och i näringsliv. Det civila samhället är aktivt. Medier tillåts verka fritt, men ägs ofta av oligarker och kan därför vara tendentiösa. De rättsvärdande myndigheterna som ofta är svaga och allmänt betraktas som korrumperade är under reformering. Straffrihet för högre tjänstemän och politiker är utbredd.

Hälsoläget i Ukraina är allvarligt, med en låg medellivslängd för män, världens lägsta vaccineringsgrad, stor utbredning av hiv och TBC, hög alkoholkonsumtion bland män och en relativt hög barnadödlighet. Våld i nära relationer är ett allvarligt problem. Diskriminering av etniska minoriteter förekommer och det finns en utbredd negativ syn på hbtq-



## Freedom in the World 2017 - Crimea

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Freedom Status: Not Free

Aggregate Score: 9/100 (0 = Least Free, 100 = Most Free)

Freedom Rating: 6.5/7 (1 = Most Free, 7 = Least Free)

Political Rights: 7/7 (1 = Most Free, 7 = Least Free)

Civil Liberties: 6/7 (1 = Most Free, 7 = Least Free)

### Quick Facts

Population: 2,300,000

Press Freedom Status: Not Free

### OVERVIEW

In early 2014, Russian forces invaded the autonomous Ukrainian region of Crimea, which was then quickly incorporated into the Russian Federation through a referendum that was widely condemned as having been conducted in violation of international law. The occupation government severely limits political and civil rights, has silenced independent media, and employs antiterrorism and other laws against political dissidents. Some members of the peninsula's indigenous Tatar minority continue to vocally oppose the annexation, despite the risk of imprisonment.

### Key Developments

- In November, the International Criminal Court stated in preliminary findings that the annexation of Crimea constituted a violation of Ukraine's territorial integrity and was "equivalent to an international armed conflict between Ukraine and the Russian Federation."
- In September, elections for the Russian State Duma were held in Crimea. Local rights activists reported that some residents were threatened with dismissal from their jobs if they failed to vote, or were pressured to attend a preelection rally for Russian president Vladimir Putin's United Russia party.
- Crimean Tatar activist Ervin Ibragimov was abducted in May, and his whereabouts were unknown at year's end.

### Executive Summary

<http://www.refworld.org/cgi-bin/texis/vtx/rwmain?page=printdoc&docid=58ff3e264> 26-04-2017



## **Human Rights and Democracy Report 2016 - CHAPTER VI: Human Rights Priority Countries - Russia**

The human rights environment in Russia deteriorated further in 2016.

The UK was deeply concerned about the ongoing crackdown on civil society and freedom of expression. The government increasingly used legislation to restrict civil society organisations, including broadening the definition of “political activity” under the “Foreign Agents” law. The introduction of the “Yarovaya Law” in July, aimed at tackling religious extremism, resulted in increased restrictions of online freedoms and a clampdown on religious activity. State media television continue to promote a narrow, pro-government, narrative.

State Duma Elections in September, whilst transparently administered, featured numerous procedural irregularities. The Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe (OSCE) monitoring mission noted it was negatively affected by restrictions to fundamental freedoms and political rights. Modern slavery remained a serious problem in Russia with an estimated one million people in Russia living in slavery (according to the Global Slavery Index). Although the government took legislative measures to deal with this, they fell far short of what would be needed to tackle the problem. LGB&T persons continued to be at significant risk of persecution and violence, with the Russian Government taking little action to combat homophobia among the Russian population.

The UK’s human rights work in Russia focused on five priority themes: civil society and democracy; equality and non-discrimination; rule of law; the North Caucasus; and freedom of expression. We sponsored a range of projects, including a visit by Sir Ian McKellen that raised the profile of LGB&T rights. We continued to raise our concerns publicly, through multilateral organisations, and directly to the Russian authorities.

Shakespeare Lives on Film Ambassador Sir Ian McKellen holds a copy of the Russian constitution during a visit to Ekaterinburg with the British Council where he spoke to the local LGB&T community.

Severe human rights abuses by the de facto Russian authorities in Crimea continued. Ukrainians opposed to the Russian annexation have been sentenced, arrested or investigated under fabricated charges of extremism; others face pressure to renounce their Ukrainian citizenship in favour of Russian citizenship or be denied access to basic services. Some have been forced into exile. In some cases Ukrainian citizens have been transferred outside Crimea to prisons in Russia.

Ethnic minority Crimean Tatars continued to suffer particular human rights abuses. A number of Crimean Tatars have been imprisoned, and homes and mosques were regularly raided. The UK has frequently raised human rights abuses in Crimea with the de facto Russian authorities. In December, the UK supported a successful UN General Assembly resolution which called for Russia to uphold its obligations in Crimea under applicable international law, and to allow access for international human rights monitors.

In eastern Ukraine, the Russian-backed conflict continued to devastate communities. At the end of 2016, the UN estimated the conflict had cost 10,000 lives and internally displaced almost 1 million people. Russia continued to violate its commitments under the 2015 Minsk Agreement by supplying personnel and weapons to separatist forces. The UK has called for investigations into reports that Ukrainians opposed to the regimes in separatist-controlled territories risk arrest, physical and sexual violence and summary execution.

Russian actions in Abkhazia and South Ossetia led to deterioration in the human rights situation in both regions. There was increased pressure on freedom of movement, including through denial of access to documentation, closure of crossing points and installation of razor wire fences along the Administrative Boundary Lines. Georgian language education has been severely curtailed and laws have been passed restricting the residency and property rights of ethnic Georgians. The UK continued to call on Russia and the de facto authorities in both regions to allow international human rights organisations access to Abkhazia and South Ossetia. FCO Minister Sir Alan Duncan reiterated the importance of this during a visit to Georgia in November.

Despite a considerable lack of progress, the UK will continue to support human rights in Russia in 2017. We will attend trials and speak out on human rights violations, whilst working with EU partners and through multilateral organisations to hold Russia to account. Russia will also be a priority country for our global efforts to combat modern slavery.