

LGBT COMMUNITY ACTIVITIES IN RUSSIA AFTER THE EXTENSION OF THE LGBT PROPAGANDA LAW 2022

Sabrina Rafika, Gonda Yumitro

Department of International Relations, University of Muhammadiyah Malang

sabrinarafika13@webmail.umm.ac.id; gonda@umm.ac.id

ABSTRACT

Russia is widely recognized for its opposition to the LGBT movement, particularly through the implementation of the 2013 Gay Propaganda Law, which was further expanded by President Vladimir Putin in 2022. This extension has significantly intensified restrictions on the activities of the LGBT community within the country. This study aims to analyze the social impact of the 2022 extension of the Gay Propaganda Law, both in public life and in digital spaces. The findings were obtained using qualitative methods, including content analysis of credible Russian news sources and a literature review of peer-reviewed academic journals published between 2015 and 2025. The results indicate that the extension of the law has had a substantial negative impact on the LGBT community, leading to increased marginalization, a heightened sense of threat due to legal constraints, and limited opportunities for expression, both on social media and in broader society. This study contributes to a deeper understanding of the consequences of anti-LGBT legislation and may serve as a reference for future research on social and political developments related to LGBT issues in Russia.

Keywords: *Gay Propaganda Law, LGBT, Russia*

INTRODUCTION

In several countries around the world, LGBT-related activities have been legalized, and many nations actively support the movement. According to the International Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Trans

and Intersex Association (ILGA), approximately 70 countries prohibit discrimination based on sexual orientation, and around 40 countries have legalized same-sex marriage, granting such unions the same legal status as opposite-sex marriages. The LGBT population has seen notable

growth in European countries such as France, the Netherlands, and others. Sweden, in particular, has experienced significant development in LGBT community activities. In 1995, Sweden legalized same-sex marriage based on principles of freedom of expression, and as a liberal nation, it strongly upholds human rights.

LGBT issues have received increasing attention globally, especially following the rise of the LGBT movement in the United States, a country often at the center of various social debates. American popular culture—including cartoons, films, and music—frequently incorporates LGBT themes, further influencing international discourse.

In contrast, Russia remains one of the countries that strongly opposes the LGBT community, despite being home to one of the world's largest LGBT non-governmental organizations, the Russian LGBT Network. Since the Soviet era, LGBT identities have been heavily criticized for deviating from traditional values and the teachings of the Orthodox Church. Although the LGBT community experienced limited change following the collapse of the Soviet Union, opportunities for expression have

remained highly restricted. The Russian government has consistently condemned LGBT rights, most notably through the introduction of the so-called "Gay Propaganda Law" in 2013, under President Vladimir Putin, which was justified as a measure to protect children from information that allegedly promotes the rejection of traditional family values. This law was further expanded in 2022, and President Putin publicly reinforced his opposition by declaring a figurative "war" against the LGBT movement.

Several existing studies have examined the Gay Propaganda Law, either through various theoretical lenses or by focusing on the period when the law was initially enacted in 2013. For instance, the article "Between Sovereignty and Universal Norms: An English School Analysis of Global Responses to Russia's Anti-LGBT Policies" analyzes global reactions, highlighting a divide between pro-LGBT countries that condemned Russia's policies and others that respected Russia's sovereign decision. Another relevant study is by Puji Astuti (2019), which explores the activities of the LGBT community following the passage of the 2013 Gay Propaganda Law.

While these studies provide valuable insights, this research addresses a specific gap in the literature by focusing on the impact of the 2022 extension of the Gay Propaganda Law. Specifically, it investigates the activities and experiences of the LGBT community in Russia following the law's expansion, offering a more current perspective on the issue.

METHODOLOGY

This study employs a qualitative method with a descriptive approach to analyze public policies enacted by the Russian government. The qualitative approach is appropriate for this research, as it seeks to explore and interpret the meanings behind anti-LGBT policies and their implementation within the affected communities. Data were collected from a variety of credible sources, including e-books, local Russian news outlets, academic journals, and relevant scholarly articles. The selected sources meet established credibility criteria, such as the reputation of the authors and publishers, as well as the accuracy and reliability of the information presented.

This research is grounded in Public Policy theory, which conceptualizes public policy as encompassing both the actions

taken and not taken by the government on behalf of its citizens. This includes formal actions such as speeches, legislation, and regulations, as well as the implementation processes that follow. In this context, the study examines how the Russian government's decisions and non-decisions regarding LGBT issues reflect broader policy intentions and outcomes.

FINDING AND DISCUSSION

LGBT In Russia

Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, and Transgender (LGBT) issues remain a topic of widespread debate and controversy, both at local and national levels. In some contexts, the LGBT community continues to be stigmatized, often being associated with the spread of sexually transmitted diseases such as HIV/AIDS, viewed as morally or religiously deviant, or perceived as a threat to national ideologies. These stigmatizations contribute to the widespread rejection of LGBT identities in various societies, where sexual diversity is often misunderstood and pathologized. The LGBT acronym represents a spectrum of sexual orientations and gender identities: Lesbian refers to women who experience emotional, physical, and spiritual attraction to other women. Gay

typically refers to men who are emotionally and physically attracted to other men. Bisexual describes individuals, both male and female, who are attracted to both the same and opposite sexes. Transgender refers to individuals whose gender identity does not align with the sex assigned to them at birth, and who may choose to undergo medical procedures such as hormone therapy or surgery to align their physical appearance with their gender identity.

Globally, many countries continue to reject the LGBT movement. As of recent data, at least 13 countries impose the death penalty for individuals identified as LGBT or LGBT supporters. Additionally, around 44 countries maintain discriminatory laws against LGBT individuals, often leading to widespread fear and social exclusion. Seventeen countries, including the Russian Federation, prohibit the promotion of LGBT-related content or advocacy. One of the most prominent forms of LGBT visibility is the Pride Parade, typically held during Pride Month in June. These events serve as platforms for LGBT individuals and allies to express identity, advocate for rights, and celebrate diversity. The rainbow flag, widely recognized as a symbol of the LGBT movement, is prominently displayed during such events. Each color of the flag—red,

orange, yellow, green, blue, and others—represents the diversity and unity of the LGBT community. The flag was originally designed in 1978 by Gilbert Baker at the request of Harvey Milk, one of the first openly gay elected officials in the United States.

In Russia, regulations concerning LGBT individuals date back to the Pre-Modern Slavic era (approximately 900 to 1700), during which laws were enacted to maintain societal stability, including norms governing sexuality and gender roles. Historically, Russian legal and cultural frameworks reinforced rigid roles for men and women, often marginalizing those who did not conform. Notably, early Russian policies focused primarily on criminalizing male homosexuality, while lesbianism was regarded as a curable illness rather than a criminal offense. During the early years of the Soviet Union, a brief period of liberalization occurred in which laws prohibiting homosexuality and related behaviors were abolished. Despite this legal shift, societal attitudes remained largely intolerant, and LGBT individuals—particularly gay men or those perceived as having effeminate traits—faced persistent discrimination, including barriers to employment. A more open climate emerged

under Mikhail Gorbachev's leadership through the implementation of glasnost (openness to external information) and perestroika (economic and political restructuring), which facilitated greater civil expression, including within the LGBT community. However, this liberalization was short-lived. Under Joseph Stalin's regime, a harsh crackdown ensued with the introduction of Article 154A in 1934, which criminalized male homosexuality under anti-sodomy laws. This law remained in effect until 1960 and marked a period of intense persecution of homosexuals. Despite such legal restrictions, LGBT communities continued to develop, particularly in major cities such as Moscow and Saint Petersburg. These urban centers became home to various LGBT organizations, venues, and media outlets that provided platforms for visibility and community building.

In Moscow, GayRussia.ru emerged as one of the earliest non-governmental organizations advocating for LGBT rights through public demonstrations, including street parades. Its leaders challenged the Moscow authorities' bans on pride parades from 2006 to 2008 by filing a case with the European Court of Human Rights. In a landmark development, three activists—Aleksey Kiselev, Nikola Baev, and Nikolay

Alekseev—brought a case against the 2013 Gay Propaganda Law to the same court. In 2017, the Court ruled that the law violated the European Convention on Human Rights, particularly with respect to freedom of expression and the prohibition of discrimination. Nonetheless, the law remained in effect. Meanwhile, the Russian LGBT Network, based in Saint Petersburg, has become the largest LGBT rights organization in the country, with divisions in more than 20 cities. The organization participates in initiatives such as the Side by Side Film Festival and actively campaigns against anti-LGBT policies through petitions, awareness campaigns, and protests. These developments illustrate the resilience of Russia's LGBT community amid persistent legal and societal challenges.

LGBT developments in Russia after the implementation of the 2013 Gay Propaganda Law

The Gay Propaganda Law is a regional policy that was formally approved and signed by the Constitutional Court of the Russian Federation and has been enforced in ten Russian cities since 2006. These cities include Saint Petersburg, Ryazan, Arkhangelsk, Magadan, Samara, Kaliningrad, Novosibirsk, the Republic of

Bashkortostan, Kostroma, and Krasnodar. Notably, in Kaliningrad, the prohibition against promoting LGBT-related content applies not only to minors but to all residents, reflecting a broader restriction compared to other regions. The principal proponent of the Gay Propaganda Law was Yelena Mizulina, a prominent Russian politician. She introduced the law in response to rising concerns about child abuse, framing it as a protective measure. On January 25, 2013, Mizulina proposed a bill titled For the Purpose of Protecting Children from Information Advocating a Denial of Traditional Family Values, which later became widely known as the Gay Propaganda Law. Interestingly, the bill avoids the direct use of the term “homosexuality,” instead referring to “non-traditional relationships.” The legislation was ratified by President Vladimir Putin on June 29, 2013, thereby incorporating the Gay Propaganda Law into federal legislation. It became an amendment to the existing Federal Law No. 436-FZ, titled On the Protection of Children from Information Harmful to Their Health and Development, which had originally been enacted on December 23, 2010. Specifically, the Gay Propaganda Law was codified as Article 6.21 of the Administrative Code of the

Russian Federation. This article prohibits the dissemination of materials that are considered harmful to the psychological and moral development of minors, including content promoting non-traditional sexual relationships.

The key provisions of Article 6.21 include the following:

1. Material about self harm,
2. Material that can cause panic, fear and horror,
3. Material relating to violations of the law,
4. Material about violence,
5. Substance abuse material
6. Material distributed through information and communication networks such as the internet must undergo content assessment by blacklisting sites that contain pornographic elements and sell illegal drugs.

Article 6.21 of the Administrative Code of the Russian Federation outlines legal provisions regarding the dissemination of information related to non-traditional sexual relations to minors. The article is divided into four sections, each specifying different forms of propaganda and associated penalties for violations. The first

section of Article 6.21 stipulates that promoting non-traditional sexual relations through the dissemination of information intended to influence minors' behavior is prohibited. Violators are subject to fines ranging from 4,000 rubles to 5,000 rubles for individuals, 40,000 rubles to 50,000 rubles for administrative officials, and 800,000 rubles to 1,000,000 rubles for legal entities. Additionally, businesses may face a suspension of operations for 90 days. The second section specifies that if the violation involves the use of mass media or information and telecommunications networks (including the internet), the penalties are increased. Individual violators may face fines between 50,000 rubles and 100,000 rubles, administrative officials may be fined between 100,000 rubles and 200,000 rubles, and legal entities may face fines between 800,000 rubles and 1,000,000 rubles, along with a 90-day business suspension. The third section addresses violations committed by foreign citizens or stateless individuals. If they are found guilty of promoting non-traditional sexual relations under the conditions outlined in the first section, they may face a fine of 4,000 rubles to 5,000 rubles or be administratively expelled from the Russian Federation, with the possibility of a 15-day detention. The

final section stipulates that if a foreign citizen or stateless individual engages in such activities through mass media or the internet, they will be subject to either criminal sanctions or a fine ranging from 50,000 rubles to 100,000 rubles, or administrative expulsion from the Russian Federation, accompanied by 15 days of detention.

In Russia, the LGBT community is not recognized as a distinct social group, which results in a lack of legal protection and exposes its members to significant discrimination. This discrimination extends across nearly all sectors of society. According to ILGA Europe (the International Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Trans and Intersex Association), in 2013, LGBT individuals in Russia faced various forms of discrimination, including those related to family law, biased speech, discrimination in education and healthcare, violence motivated by prejudice, and criminalization. Additionally, the Russian LGBT Network identifies two types of discrimination experienced by the LGBT community in Russia: Classical Human Rights violations and ordinary human rights violations. Classical human rights violations involve actions perpetrated by individuals or groups representing the state or government,

whereas ordinary human rights violations are those carried out by civil society, organizations, or individuals. The LGBT community in Russia primarily faces ordinary human rights violations. There is a noticeable difference in the frequency of discrimination cases against the LGBT community in Russia before and after the passage of the Gay Propaganda Law:

1. Before the Gay Propaganda Law was passed, there were 3 cases of discrimination against the right to assemble and associate in 2011 and 2 cases in 2012. These cases increased after the Gay Propaganda Law was passed to 10 cases in 2013, 13 cases in 2014, 26 cases in 2015 and 29 cases in 2016.
2. The difficulty of changing legal documents experienced by transgender people has also increased, namely 1 case that occurred in 2010 increased to 13 cases in 2013, 17 cases in 2014, 20 cases in 2015 and 30 cases in 2016.
3. Hate crimes are acts in which a person or group commits a crime on the basis that the victim is part of a particular organization or social group. In 2010 there was 1 case, 2011 13 cases, 2012 there was a

decrease to 6 cases but in 2013 there was a fairly rapid increase, namely 50 cases in 2013, 52 cases in 2014, 65 cases in 2016, up to 103 cases in 2016. This happened in the 2013 Volgograd tragedy,

4. After the Gay Propaganda Law, there was a crime that had never happened before, namely fake date. Fake date is a crime where the perpetrator will get to know and approach the victim via the internet who will then meet at an agreed place but when they meet the perpetrator will attack the victim. Fake date appeared in 2013 with 8 cases, 10 cases in 2014, 12 cases in 2015 and 13 cases in 2016. Fake date was experienced by someone named Kochekov but when Kochekov reported it to the police, the police did not follow up on his report because Kochekov was a homosexual,
5. The LGBT community also experiences discrimination against freedom of expression such as the use of symbols that have meanings related to LGBT. Before the Gay Propaganda Law there were 7 cases (2011) and 22 cases (2012) which then after the Gay Propaganda Law

became 47 cases in 2013, 55 cases in 2014, 77 cases in 2015 and 60 cases in 2016. Dmitry Iskov who is an LGBT activist was once punished in the form of a fine due to his actions of holding a sign containing elements of support for LGBT next to a school in Saint Petersburg,

6. In addition to hate crimes, hate speech is also one of the acts of discrimination often experienced by the LGBT community in Russia. What was initially 8 cases (2008) and 5 cases (2011) and 18 cases (2012) became 30 cases in 2013, 39 cases in 2014, 50 cases in 2015, and 98 cases in 2016.
7. Discrimination is often experienced by students and teaching staff, in 2010 there were 3 cases and in 2011 there were 5 cases, but after the Gay Propaganda Law there were 7 cases in 2013, 15 cases in 2014, 22 cases in 2015, and 24 cases in 2016.

After President Vladimir Putin passed the Gay Propaganda Law in 2013, discrimination against the LGBT community in Russia increased. This discrimination is often perpetuated by civil society groups that oppose LGBT rights (homophobic groups), who frequently attack LGBT

individuals, either directly during events or through misleading representations. However, despite the rising discrimination, there has also been a gradual increase in the number of LGBT communities in Russia, albeit at a slower pace. In 2012, the LGBT population in Russia was approximately 3.5%, but by 2015, this had risen to between 3% and 5%, with the younger generation increasing to 4.1% by 2016. The growth of the LGBT population can be attributed to the rapid dissemination of information. The Gay Propaganda Law is frequently cited as a justification for criminal acts and attacks on the LGBT community, which are widely regarded as violations of human rights. These incidents are extensively covered in Russian media, further highlighting the presence of the LGBT community in the country and garnering significant support from various sectors. As a result, the LGBT population continues to grow, even in the face of rising discrimination.

LGBT activities in Russia after the extension of the gay propaganda law 2022 from 2023 to 2025

After being in effect for nine years, President Vladimir Putin extended the Gay Propaganda Law in 2022, introducing several new provisions. These included a

ban on sex changes without medical justification, a ban on transgender individuals adopting children, the invalidation of same-sex marriages, and an expanded prohibition on any form of LGBT promotion across all media, including film, TV, and music. Previously, the regulation banning LGBT promotion applied only to minors, but following the update, the ban now extends to individuals of all ages (Kondakov, 2023). In November 2023, the Supreme Court of the Russian Federation declared that the LGBT movement is considered part of extremist and terrorist movements. One of the reasons for this classification is that the LGBT community is accused of violating the law by inciting religious and social conflicts. The Russian government holds the authority to label any group or political entity suspected of committing unlawful acts or causing social and religious disturbances as extremist (S, 2024). Following the law's extension in 2023, there has been an increase in incidents, including raids on LGBT activities, sanctions against individuals and groups suspected of promoting homosexuality, the detention of LGBT activists, and other forms of repression.

Ban on promotion of LGBT symbols

The Russian government has emphasized a ban on the promotion of LGBT-related symbols on social media and within social circles. This was evident on January 31, 2024, when the Nizhny Novgorod District Court arrested Anastasia Ershova for wearing rainbow earrings, a symbol associated with the LGBT community. Ershova was sentenced to five days in prison. Similarly, on January 25, 2024, a judge in Volgograd fined Artyom Progebnnyak 1,000 rubles (approximately \$11) for displaying a rainbow flag symbol on his international social media account. He was accused of posting it with the intention of promoting LGBT ideology, mirroring the case of another woman who was sentenced by a Saratov court for sharing a rainbow flag on her social media (Russia: First Convictions Under LGBT 'Extremist' Ruling, 2024). Such cases are not limited to civilians, as they also involve major corporations like Apple. The Russian government, through the Tagansky Court in Moscow, sentenced Apple for allegedly violating the Gay Propaganda Law, specifically part 3 of Article 6.21 of the Russian Administrative Code, which includes online promotion of non-traditional sexual relationships, gender reassignment,

and child-free ideologies. While the exact nature of Apple's violation was not made clear, it is suspected that Roskomnadzor, Russia's media and digital supervisory body, filed the lawsuit over a Pride Month wallpaper displayed by Apple. Pride Month celebrations, which are widely observed in the United States, feature rainbow colors and other LGBT symbols. Under the law, Apple was fined up to four million rubles (approximately \$48,200) or faced a potential suspension of activities for up to 90 days (Russia Today, 2025). The ban on LGBT symbols extends beyond online content and into physical goods. For example, Shein, an international online retail company headquartered in Singapore, was sued by the Russian Consumer Protection Agency, Rospotrebnadzor, for selling rainbow-colored bracelets. During a supervisory inspection, authorities found these bracelets to be in violation of the law banning the spread of LGBT ideology. The Tula City Central Court ruled that Shein's website allowed users to order these bracelets, confirming the company's violation of Russian laws prohibiting the distribution of LGBT-related content. (Russian Court Blocks Fast Fashion Retailer Shein's Website Over LGBTQ+ Bracelets, 2025)

The Russian government's efforts to limit the spread of LGBT ideology have been implemented through various measures, including restrictions on symbols. The rainbow, once a mere ornament or color without significant meaning, has now become a highly sensitive issue for law enforcement. Not only is the government vigilant about the use of rainbow colors, but civilians are also increasingly "indoctrinated" to associate the rainbow with a negative connotation. This is exemplified by protests from parents against the banking company Sberbank, which launched a special debit card for children aged 6 to 13 featuring a unicorn and rainbow colors. Many parents expressed concern over the rainbow design, prompting the Russian parliament to issue a warning letter to Sberbank, urging them to either replace or remove the rainbow colors from the card. Following amendments to the Gay Propaganda Law in 2022, online activities related to the promotion of LGBT ideology have been further restricted. The government has even gone so far as to invade individuals' privacy, as in the case of a German citizen who discussed LGBT rights on the online dating app HORNET. This led to a fine of 150,000 RUB. Additionally, nine Russian TV stations were

fined up to 1,000,000 RUB for airing content that, although not explicitly focused on LGBT issues, still represented non-traditional relationships. Prior to 2022, the Russian government imposed restrictions on LGBT content in newspapers, news channels, and television stations. However, after the extension of the Gay Propaganda Law in 2022, enforcement has become stricter, extending to films and online streaming platforms. Even minor representations of LGBT content are now subject to penalties, significantly limiting the variety of content available to the public.(Katsuba, 2025)

Discrimination and fear

The stringent surveillance imposed by the Russian government has led to an increasing sense of oppression and discrimination within the LGBT community. As a result, many LGBT individuals feel unsafe expressing their identities in public, fearing arrest and detention due to their involvement in LGBT-related activities. This sentiment was shared by a lesbian couple from Tomsk, Anya and Nastya, who had been in a relationship prior to the LGBT community being labeled as extremist. "I am very afraid of persecution and prison. I want

freedom more than anything," said Nastya.(Pestova, 2024)

The current implementation of the law has severely limited the LGBT community's freedom of movement and left little opportunity for them to aspire or live openly. This has contributed to an increasing number of citizens fleeing Russia. The 2022 extension of the LGBT Propaganda Law has also received support from the Russian Orthodox Church, which views it as a demonstration of the government's firm stance against the LGBT community, seeing it as a threat to the nation's ideological foundation. Public hostility toward LGBT individuals has intensified year after year, particularly following the expansion of the Gay Propaganda Law. Among Russian citizens who are aware of friends, family, or acquaintances who are homosexual, 59% reported reducing the intensity of their communication with them, with 40% ceasing contact entirely. Another 19% said they continued communication but avoided discussing sexual orientation, while 17% felt that other people's sexual orientation had no impact on their interactions. As of April 2019, the belief that homosexuals should not have equal rights has increased by 19% (Levada Center, 2024)

Following the extension of the Gay Propaganda Law and the addition of the extremist label to the LGBT community, law enforcement began carrying out numerous arrests, raids, and forced closures of locations identified as headquarters for LGBT groups. This crackdown occurred in Russia under the leadership of President Vladimir Putin, a country that ranks the lowest in Europe for LGBT rights, with an overall score of only 2%. This is largely due to Russia's explicit rejection of LGBT rights, as evidenced by the Gay Propaganda Law, which bans the promotion of homosexuality to children, restricts the dissemination of LGBT-related content in mass media, and labels the LGBT community as an extremist group.(Espinosa, 2024). The extension of this law has made the LGBT community more visible and, consequently, the focus of increased attention, heightening the risk of violence against them. The growing visibility of the LGBT community has had a significant impact, particularly on social media, where negative depictions of LGBT individuals are prevalent. These portrayals often frame the LGBT community as a confrontational movement, leading to an increase in attacks and hate speech. This growing hostility is being normalized in society, where some individuals view LGBT

actions as unnatural, perpetuating the belief that such treatment is justified. In addition to the arrests of several individuals, police forces raided and shut down Gay Clubs in Moscow, Yekaterinburg, Krasnoyarsk, and the oldest Gay Club in St. Petersburg. These raids occurred shortly after the government officially labeled the LGBT community as extremists. During the raids, visitors at the Gay Clubs had their personal data recorded, and many were detained, though some were later released. (News, 2024).

The growing number of individuals who feel disturbed by the existence of the LGBT community has led to an intensification of violence against them. LGBT people increasingly feel that they are denied the same rights as others, with their movements closely monitored by the government. This surveillance has fostered a sense of fear when they interact within society, as they frequently experience discriminatory treatment. The fear instilled by the laws in place has caused those within the LGBT community, especially those serving sentences or facing heavy fines, to refrain from seeking help from external organizations, such as foreign advocacy groups, for fear of prosecution. Homophobia has become even more pervasive as the government actively portrays the LGBT

community as a public threat, resulting in a rise in both discrimination and threats of violence against LGBT individuals.(Buyantueva, 2022)

CONCLUSION

The Gay Propaganda Law enacted by the Russian government is an effort to preserve traditional Russian values and prevent Western ideologies from infiltrating the country. The LGBT movement is viewed as a threat to national stability, with concerns that homosexuality may contribute to a decline in the birth rate, which in turn could disrupt the country's human resources. This law has effectively suppressed, marginalized, and even eradicated LGBT communities in Russia. Furthermore, the government has actively sought to eliminate symbols associated with LGBT identity, such as the rainbow and other colors linked to the community. The government's pressure against LGBT individuals has left many feeling oppressed, with little to no freedom of movement, as they experience widespread discrimination. The designation of the LGBT community as extremists, coupled with the enactment of the Gay Propaganda Law, has led to an increase in violence against them, both by state

authorities and civilians. Additionally, the growing number of Russian citizens who express discomfort with the presence of LGBT people suggests that the government's policies have garnered significant support, indicating their perceived success among the population.

BIBLIOGRAPHY

- Afriandi, F., Charin, ROP, & Ariyadi, F. (2022). Kaum Pelangi: Construction of LGBT Identity Through Rainbow Colors. *Jurnal Trias Politika*, 6(2), 227–244.
<https://doi.org/10.33373/jtp.v6i2.4514>
- Buyantueva, R. (2022). Cultural and Geopolitical Conflicts Between the West and Russia : Western NGOs and LGBT Activism. *Connexe*, 8, 148–167.
<https://doi.org/10.5077/journals/connex.e.2022.e1031>
- Buyantueva, R. (2020). Resource Mobilization and Russian LGBT Activism. *East European Politics*, 36(3), 417–444.
<https://doi.org/10.1080/21599165.2020.1740686>

- Fedorinova, D. (2020). "We Do Not Carry Traditional Values" Representatives of the LGBT Community Leave Russia and Go to Europe. What Are They Afraid of and How Do They Survive? Lenta.Ru.
<https://lenta.ru/articles/2020/01/27/lgbt/>
- Graff, A., & Korolczuk, E. (2022). Routledge Studies in gender, Sexuality and Politics: Anti-Gender Politics in the Populist Moment. Newgen Publishing UK.
- Hamidah, R., Wulan, TR, & Mutahir, A. (2023). Representation of Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, and Transgender (LGBT) Groups in Detik.com News. *Yinyang: Journal of Islamic, Gender, and Child Studies*, 18(1), 59–84.
<https://doi.org/10.24090/yinyang.v18i1>.
- Human Rights Watch. (2024). Russia: First Convictions Under LGBT 'Extremist' Ruling.
<https://www.hrw.org/news/2024/02/15/russia-first-convictions-under-lgbt-extremist-ruling>
- Izvestia. (2024). In St. Petersburg, After a Raid on a Closed LGBT Party, Police Detain 20 People.
<https://iz.ru/1803983/2024-12-08/v-peterburge-posle-reida-na-zakrytoi-lgbt-vecherinke-politciia-zaderzhala-20-chelovek>
- Izvestia. (2024). Organizer of LGBT Tour Abroad Arrested Until January 28.
<https://iz.ru/1800404/2024-12-02/organizatora-lgbt-turov-za-rubezh-arestovali-do-28-ianvaria>
- Izvestia. (2024). Riot Police Join LGBT Club In Moscow That Hosts LGBT Party.
<https://iz.ru/1773539/2024-10-12/omon-nagrianul-v-provodivshie-lgbt-vecherinki-kluby-moskvy>
- Katsuba, S. (2024). The Decade of Violence: A Comprehensive Analysis of Hate Crimes Against LGBTQ in Russia in the Era of the "Gay Propaganda Law" (2010–2020). *Victims and Offenders*, 19(3), 395–418.
<https://doi.org/10.1080/15564886.2023.2167142>
- Katsuba, S. (2025). Russian "Gay Propaganda Law": A Comprehensive Qualitative Analysis of the Legislation and Case Law. *Problems of Post-Communism*, 1–14.
<https://doi.org/10.1080/10758216.2025.2487577>

- Khairani, N., & Rodiah, I. (2023). The Power of Social Media to Increase LGBT Existence. *Journal of Feminism and Gender Studies*, 3(2), 107–120.
- Khairiyati, F., Fauziah, A., & Samiyono, S. (2021). Review of International Human Rights Against Lesbians, Gays, Bisexuals, and Transgenders. *Kertha Semaya Journal*, 9(3), 435–445.
- Kondakov, A.S. (2023). Violence in Queer Families: Symbolic Recognition of Same-Sex Relationships in Russian Law. *Journal of Family Violence*, 39(7), 1421–1433. <https://doi.org/10.1007/s10896-023-00630-7>
- Lenta.Ru. (2023). Putin Speaks About LGBT. <https://lenta.ru/news/2023/11/17/putin-vyskazalsya-ob-lgbt/>
- Levada-Center. (2024). Attitudes Towards Homosexuality, The Rights Of LGBT People And “Propaganda Of Homosexuality.” <https://www.levada.ru/en/2024/12/02/attitudes-towards-homosexuality-the-rights-of-lgbt-people-and-propaganda-of-homosexuality-october-2024/>
- Loriga, D. V. (2020). LGBT Rights in Russia: The 'Gay Propaganda' Law and its Consequences in Chechnya. *Bellarmino Law Society Review*, XI(I), 1–14. <https://doi.org/10.14321/qed.2.1.0100.2>
- Manvitha, S. B. (2024). From Pride to Persecution: The Plight of LGBTQ+ Russians. University of Illinois Chicago. <https://lawreview.law.uic.edu/news-stories/from-pride-to-persecution-the-plight-of-lgbtq-russians/>
- Nararyawardana, VL (2025). Homosexual Regulation in Soviet-Era Estonia in the Film *Zharptitsa* (Fonics Bird) (2021). *Multikultura*, 4(1), 172–194. <https://doi.org/10.7454/multikultura.v4i1.1148>
- Pahlke, J. (2023). The Fate of LGBTQ in Russia Since Being Classified as Extremist. *Dw.Com*. <https://www.dw.com/id/nasib-lgbtq-di-rusia-sejak-digolongkan-sebagai-ekstremis/a-67757221>
- Pestova, A. (2024). How LGBTQ+ people live in Russia after being labeled an extremist community. *Global Voices*. <https://globalvoices.org/2024/08/22/ho>

- w-lgbtq-people-live-in-russia-after-being-labeled-an-extremist-community/
- Putra, AABAK, Swandi, IW, & Sarjani, NKP (2021). Designing Campaign Media to Overcome the Risk of Sexually Transmitted Infections in LGBT. *Amarasi: Journal of Visual Communication Design*, 2(02), 152–163.
<https://doi.org/10.59997/amarasi.v2i02.313>
- Putri, DWD (2022). LGBT in Human Rights Studies in Indonesia. *Indonesian Law Student Writers Association Law Journal*, 2(1), 89–100.
- Ria.Ru. (nd). Two LGBT Supporters Detained In A Nightclub In Krasnodar. Retrieved May 12, 2025, from <https://ria.ru/20250217/lgbt-1999820396.html>
- Ria.Ru. (2025). TV-Center Channel Faces Fine Over LGBT* Propaganda. <https://ria.ru/20250111/shtraf-1993220411.html>
- Russia Today. (2025). Apple Facing 'Gay Propaganda' Probe – TASS. <https://www.rt.com/russia/616153-apple-lgbtq-propaganda-case/>
- Setyaningsih, PAW (2019). The Development of the LGBT Community in Russia After the Implementation of the Gay Propaganda Law. University of Jember.
- Shtorn, E. (2025). Empathetic Reporting Surrounding the Violence Against LGBTIQ+ Activists in Russia (The Case of Dmitry Chizhevsky and Anna Prutskova). *Journal of Homosexuality*, 1–22.
<https://doi.org/10.1080/00918369.2025.2480774>
- Stoltz, P., & Khlusova, A. (2025). Russian LGBT Activism and the Memory Politics of Sexual Citizenship. *Memory Studies*, 18(1), 76–91.
<https://doi.org/10.1177/17506980241233136>
- Statista. (2024). Rainbow Europe Score For Legal, Political And Human Rights Of Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, And Intersex (LGBTI) People In Russia In 2024. <https://www.statista.com/statistics/1384354/lgbtq-europe-legal-human-political-rights-russia/>
- The Moscow Times. (2024). Dagestan Man Caught in Gay Entrapment Scheme

- Flees Russia – Activists. <https://www.themoscowtimes.com/2024/07/01/dagestan-man-caught-in-gay-entrapment-scheme-flees-russia-activists-a85575>
- The Moscow Times. (2025). Russian Court Blocks Fast Fashion Retailer Shein's Website Over LGBTQ+ Bracelet. <https://www.themoscowtimes.com/2025/01/09/russian-court-blocks-fast-fashion-retailer-sheins-website-over-lgbtq-bracelet-a87543>
- Trisantri, CN, & Pradana, HA (2024). Between Sovereignty and Universal Norms : An English School Analysis of Global Responses to Russia's Anti-LGBT Policies. *Journal of International Relations*, 17(2), 306–321.
- Walstad, M. (2019). Abuse of LGBT Rights and Government Legitimacy in Russia. *Muraj: Minnesota Undergraduate Research & Academic Journal*, 2(4), 1–14.
- Wiyanti, WO, Hanjani, CA, & Siahaan, AM (2025). Compliance of Russian Government Policy on LGBT Group Rights with Human Rights Principles and Standards. *Jurispruden: Journal of the Faculty of Law, Islamic University of Malang*, 8(1), 78–100.
- Zabrina, ER (2024). The Influence of United States LGBTQIA+ Internationalization on Russia-US Diplomatic Relations. *Muhammadiyah University of East Kalimantan*.