

3.7. LGBTIQ persons

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Since February 2022, Russian authorities have intensified the crackdown on LGBTIQ people[495] under the pretext of promoting ‘traditional values.’[496] According to OVD-Info, 2024 was ‘a year of systemic repression against the LGBTIQ+ community in Russia,’ with ‘an escalation of criminal, administrative and legislative measures aimed at suppressing the rights and freedoms of LGBTQ+ people’.[497] Overall, LGBTIQ culture and activism ‘have been forced underground.’[498] In its 2025 ranking, ILGA-Europe, which ranks European countries on their respective legal and policy practices for LGBTIQ people, placed Russia on the last position out of 49 countries.[499] As noted by a lawyer specialising in LGBTIQ issues and working for several Russia-based NGOs, the current situation of LGBTIQ people in Russia is shaped by the existing legislation and continues deteriorating every month.[500]

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