

4.2.7. Draft evasion

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According to the Code of Administrative Offences (Article 21.5), young men of conscript age face liability for failing to appear at a military enlistment office upon receiving a summons^{[828](#)} – such as for a medical examination or additional medical examination^{[829](#)} – which is punishable with a fine of 10 000 [102 euros] to 30 000 roubles [307 euros].^{[830](#)} Smaller fines from 1 000 to 20 000 [10 – 205 euros] are imposed for failing to notify a military enlistment office about changes related to personal information, such as marital status, education, place of studies or employment, and residential address, as well as for not notifying a military enlistment office about leaving Russia for a period of more than six months.^{[831](#)} The law requires to notify a military enlistment office about a change of one's address within 14 days, including by sending a notification via the *Gosuslugi* portal.^{[832](#)}

In June 2025, the State Duma approved an amendment, increasing fines for failing to notify a military enlistment office of a change of address from the previous 1 000 – 5 000 rubles [10 – 51 euros] to 10 000 – 20 000 rubles [102 – 205 euros], noting that more than 47 000 individuals were held responsible under this legal provision, with 28 700 being fined and 18 300 receiving warnings.^{[833](#)} As noted by Artem Klyga, these fines 'are intended to scare young people and force them to send more supporting documents to military enlistment offices.' However, as of 31 October 2025, a widespread enforcement of these fines has not been observed.^{[834](#)}

Draft evasion from obligatory military service is a criminal offence, punished under Article 328 of the Criminal Code by a fine up to 200 000 rubles [2 050 euros] or imprisonment for up to two years. Draft evasion from the alternative civilian service is punishable by penalties ranging from a fine of 80 000 rubles [820 euros] to arrest of up to six months.^{[835](#)} As noted by Sergey Krivenko, the court must establish that there was a deliberate intent to evade military service, which can be demonstrated, for instance, through proving 'repeated failures' to appear at the military enlistment office without a valid reason.^{[836](#)}

In 2024, as reported by IStories, 916 individuals were convicted of draft evasion, and two more were found guilty of evading alternative civilian service. In 95 % of convictions the punishment was a fine of up to 100 000 rubles [1 025 euros].^{[837](#)} According to a human rights lawyer, in the first half of 2025, 580 people were convicted by courts for draft evasion, with the majority (576) punished by a fine. Only two individuals were sentenced to imprisonment (up to one year): these are the first prison convictions in several years, which indicates that penalties for draft evasion remain relatively lenient.^{[838](#)} As reported by IStories, based on data from the Judicial Department, actual prison sentence was applied previously only once, in 2022.^{[839](#)}

[828](#)

Russia, ?????? ?????????? ?????????? ?? ?????????????????? ??????????????????, ?? 30.12.2001 N 195-?? (? ??? ? ???, ????? ? ??? ? 22.10.2025) ["Code of Administrative Offences of the Russian Federation, of 30.12.2001

No 195 -FZ (with amendments and additions, effective from 22.10.2025), 2025, [url](#), Art. 21.5

[829](#)

Sluzhba pomoschi prizyvnikam, ????????? ?? ??????. ??? ????? ? ????????????? [Draft dodging. What happens to draft dodgers?], 25 September 2025, [url](#)

[830](#)

Russia, ?????? ?????????? ?????????? ?? ?????????????????? ??????????????????, ?? 30.12.2001 N 195-?? (? ??? ? ???., ?????? ? ??? ? 22.10.2025) ["Code of Administrative Offences of the Russian Federation, of 30.12.2001 No 195 -FZ (with amendments and additions, effective from 22.10.2025), 2025, [url](#), Art. 21.5

[831](#)

Russia, ?????? ?????????? ?????????? ?? ?????????????????? ??????????????????, ?? 30.12.2001 N 195-?? (? ??? ? ???., ?????? ? ??? ? 22.10.2025) ["Code of Administrative Offences of the Russian Federation, of 30.12.2001 No 195 -FZ (with amendments and additions, effective from 22.10.2025), 2025, [url](#), Art. 21.5

[832](#)

DSO–Dvizhenie Soznatelnyh otkazchikov [Movement of Conscientious Objectors], Telegram, 24 July 2025, [url](#)

[833](#)

Forbes, ?????? ?????? ????? ? ????? ?????? ?? ?????????? ? ????????? ? ????????? [The State Duma passed a law on new fines for failure to notify the military enlistment office of a change of address], 24 June 2025, [url](#)

[834](#)

Artem Klyga, Email communication with EUAA, 31 October 2025

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Russia, ?????????? ?????? ?????????? ?????????? ?? 13.06.1996 N 63-?? (??? ?? 31.07.2025) (? ??? ? ???., ?????? ? ??? ? 01.09.2025) [The Criminal Code of the Russian Federation of 13.06.1996 N 63-FZ (with amendments and additions, effective from 1.09.2025)], 2025, [url](#), Art. 328

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Denmark, DIS, and Sweden, The Swedish Migration Agency, Russia: Conscription, March 2025, [url](#), p. 35

[837](#)

ISStories, How and for What Russians Are Judged in 2024, 18 April 2025, [url](#)

[838](#)

Human rights lawyer, Online interview with EUAA, 24 October 2025

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ISStories, How and for What Russians Are Judged in 2024, 18 April 2025, [url](#)

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