



Annex 2: Terms of Reference

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The research should **focus on the period between 1 November 2024 - 1 November 2025**. Limited relevant information covering **November 2025** to be added where available.

- **Political opposition, activists, minority groups, women**

- Political context and developments
- Legal context and its impact on freedom of speech and freedom of assembly
- Treatment of specific profiles
 - Political opponents
 - Journalists
 - Human rights defenders and lawyers
 - Activists, including environmental activists
 - LGBTIQ
 - Religious minorities
 - Women

- **Military Service**

- Overview of the armed forces
- Compulsory military service
- Contract military service
- Military service in the North Caucasus, particularly in Chechnya
- Consequences for desertion