

# Freedom from Torture, Cruel, Inhuman, or Degrading Treatment

## ARMENIA

In 2025, Pink Armenia documented instances of severe and degrading treatment of gay military personnel, including the forced disclosure of sexual orientation, humiliation, and coercive transfers. In one case, a young man was placed in a psychiatric institution for months solely due to his sexual orientation, while also facing violence and psychological pressure from family members. In another, intimate videos were circulated among servicemen, leading to threats, harassment, and ongoing danger even after discharge.

## BELARUS

In February, the Group of Independent Experts on the Human Rights Situation in Belarus presented its latest [findings](#) documenting abuses committed by Belarusian authorities since the 2020 elections. The report detailed a broad campaign of repression, including arbitrary arrests, torture, sexual violence, and the persecution of political opponents, journalists, and LGBTI people. The experts found that arrests are frequently politically motivated and carried out with excessive force, intimidation, and threats. Detainees reported beatings, electric shocks, sexual threats, and the coercion of family members. The report highlighted the particularly brutal treatment of LGBTI people, who face slurs, sexual humiliation, and targeted violence in detention. One case described a trans woman being severely beaten, threatened with rape, and forced into a false confession.

## GEORGIA

In February, a research [report](#) titled Human Rights Crisis in Georgia Following the 2024 Parliamentary Elections documented the systematic use of homophobic and degrading language by police and special forces during the suppression of the November–December 2024 anti-Russian protests. The report describes repeated instances of insults, threats, degrading treatment and sexualised violence, with individuals perceived as insufficiently “masculine” reportedly singled out for particularly severe physical abuse. The documentation further indicates that minors were among those affected, with recorded cases of verbal humiliation, physical violence and confiscation of personal belongings.

## KYRGYZSTAN

In April, Kol-Kabysh Collective reported that a trans woman had been held in a Russian special detention centre for four months. She was detained on January 30 and, after a rapid trial two days later, remained in custody in the village of Novoukrainskoye near Kropotkin. Kol-Kabysh reported that her passport has expired, all of her bank accounts are blocked, and when a close friend appealed to the Kyrgyz Embassy for assistance, officials refused help due to discrepancies in her documents, suggesting instead that she provide a certificate of gender-affirming surgery. From within detention, however, she has no way of securing such documentation. In May, her conditions worsened to the point of requiring medical attention, and advocacy undertaken by the Kol-Kabysh led to the officialisation of her renewed identification documents, which formalised her return to Bishkek. Mid-June, the victim confirmed she was getting transferred to Moscow to be flown back into Kyrgyzstan and, on June 18, Kol-Kabysh welcomed her arrival.

In June, a trans girl was detained and held overnight in the Leninsky District Department of Internal Affairs, where her health worsened significantly. Despite repeatedly asking for a bandage, officers dismissed her requests and instructed her to wait until a report was drafted. The staff eventually fell asleep in the office, leaving her in pain without medical assistance. The following morning, she recorded an officer insulting her with obscenities and pressuring her to sign a confession in exchange for release. Kol-Kabysh immediately appealed to the National Centre against Torture.

## SWEDEN

In June, the Attunda District Court handed down its [ruling](#) in the case of Gustav Hemming, the former regional councilor who resigned last year after being accused of sexual misconduct. The court found him guilty of sexually molesting a 13-year-old boy during a train journey. While the judges considered the act serious enough to warrant a prison term, they ultimately imposed a suspended sentence, reasoning that Hemming was unlikely to reoffend.

## UZBEKISTAN

According to the same independent research conducted by local civil society organisations on the situation of LGBTI people in Uzbekistan, 12 cases of persecution against trans people were documented in 2025, including two prosecutions under Article 120 of the Criminal Code. The research highlighted ongoing concerns regarding detention practices, noting that trans women were routinely detained in facilities designated for men, based on sex assigned at birth. This practice reportedly exposed detainees to heightened risks of humiliation, physical abuse, and sexual violence by both other detainees and prison staff.