

# Statement: On Russia’s designation of ILGA World as an “undesirable” organisation and associated risks

[News](#), [Civil Rights and Freedom](#), [Safety](#), [Civil Society](#), [Freedom of Association](#), [Russia](#)

Russia’s designation of ILGA World as an “undesirable” organisation is aimed at isolating civil society and criminalising international solidarity. ILGA-Europe remains committed to supporting the Russian LGBTI movement under these severe restrictions.

*Russian version below*

Today, ILGA World [released a statement](#) confirming that Russian authorities have designated it an “undesirable” organisation. As a result of this designation, ILGA World is now treated as an illegal entity under Russian law, and people who engage with it are exposed to significant risks of surveillance, arrest, repression and criminal liability.

Such repressive designations are intended to criminalise solidarity and cut connections between organisations defending human rights and supporting communities, and networks of international support. They reflect the Russian government’s deep fear of civil society and sustained attempts to isolate activists and silence opposition. History has shown that these efforts do not succeed. Years of repression have failed to extinguish civil society or the LGBTI movement in Russia, and they will continue to fail.

For nearly 15 years, Russian LGBTI activists and organisations have shown courage, creativity and determination in the face of sustained repression. ILGA-Europe has stood alongside and supported them throughout all this time, and this commitment has not changed.

We shall continue to support and strengthen LGBTI communities, organisers, and groups working toward a better and freer Russia. As the situation becomes more dangerous, we have adapted our work, prioritising care and safety. We will continue to follow the lead of the Russian movement, offering solidarity and support in ways that are responsible, reliable, and meaningful.

At the same time, we acknowledge the inherent threats this designation creates for the broader ILGA family. We fully respect the individual security choices of activists who may be placed at risk due to their association with ILGA-Europe and ILGA World, and we encourage approaches that prioritise safety and discretion.

Repression seeks to make people feel isolated, intimidated, and silenced. It has not succeeded. Despite the years of repression, harassment and criminalisation, LGBTI communities and activists in Russia continue to exist, care for one another, and resist in ways that are often quiet, careful and courageous. Our solidarity is stronger than fear, and our shared struggle for dignity and freedom will continue beyond every attempt to suppress it.

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