

The information is aggregated from open source online resources and our own practice. In these newsletters, we will update you in brief on everyday human rights violations in numbers and facts.

Saturday 30 April 2022 to Friday 6 May 2022

Human Constanta expresses its [solidarity](#) with the people of Ukraine. We urge the international community to prioritize the voices and stories of Ukrainians, highlight violations of human rights and international law, call for accountability for the actions of the aggressor, and [support the most vulnerable groups fleeing the war without discrimination](#).

Human Constanta has published a piece on why the [actions of the de facto Belarusian authorities can be categorized as war crimes](#).

'Dancing protest' defendants convicted

On 4 May 2022, 11 more defendants in the 'dancing protest' case [were sentenced](#) to the following terms:

- 3 years' home confinement for Dzmitryi Shamshur and Yuri Klimavets, as well as for the political prisoners Ihar Liashkevich and Dzyana Vashchylina;
- 2 years' home confinement for Katsiaryna Yarameyeva, Iryna Kuzmianchuk, Yuliya Levaniuk, Larysa Yakhimovich, and Dzmitryi Neumiarzhyski; and
- 3 years in an open penitentiary for Vital Brytsko and Liudmila Karabaniuk.

127 people have already been convicted in the same case. According to the prosecution, the dancing protest in Brest "grossly violated public order". The demonstrators also reportedly disobeyed orders from police officers, causing disruption to transport, businesses, and other organizations.

Persecution for anti-war speech

On 5 May 2022, [Ivan Korabelnikov](#) was sentenced to 3 months of imprisonment for having painted the sign "No War" on a fence. The prosecution stated that the writing decreased the "aesthetic value" of the fence. Korabelnikov admitted guilt, saying that while the "aesthetic value" might have decreased, the fence was still "performing its functions well".

Following a state-orchestrated meeting, expressing support for Russian aggression in Ukraine, passers-by who were expressing dissatisfaction and arguing with the 'participants' [were taken](#) to police stations for questioning.

State TV comments on imposing death penalty for "attempted terrorism"

Following the recent amendment to the Criminal Code, introducing the death penalty as punishment for attempts to commit acts of terrorism, Belarusian state-owned and state-controlled TV [published](#) a video, where state officials stated that this legislative amendment was made in response to "calls for radical actions from extremists". To illustrate examples of radicalization, the reporters cited the case of 'railroad guerillas' – people detained for sabotaging the railroad to prevent Russian military equipment and supplies from reaching Ukraine.

Political prisoners

The total number of political prisoners in Belarus is [1162](#). The number continues to grow daily.