



Information for the List of Issues: the Russian Federation
For the 93rd session
of the UN Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women
(5–30 October 2026)
Subject: Violations of Women’s Rights Committed by the Russian Federation
in the Territory of Ukraine (2022–2026)

3 September 2026

Authors of the submission:

Kharkiv Human Rights Protection Group (KHPG), founded in 1992, has since February 2022 systematically documented violations of international humanitarian and human rights law committed in the course of the Russian Federation's armed aggression against Ukraine. The materials are systematised in dedicated databases (the “KHPG Databases”)

Anti-Discrimination Centre (ADC) Memorial – Brussels protects victims of discrimination, including women subjected to gender-based discrimination, in Eastern Europe and Central Asia.

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1. Relevance of the Submission's Subject Matter to the Committee's Mandate

The authors consider it appropriate to include violations of the rights of Ukrainian women in the List of Issues addressed to the Russian Federation (RF). RF is a party to the Convention by succession to the USSR, which ratified it in 1981, and to the Optional Protocol since 2004. General Recommendation No. 30 (2013) confirms that States parties' obligations continue during armed conflict and extend extraterritorially to persons within their effective control (paras. 2 and 8) — including in the temporarily occupied territories of Ukraine and in respect of persons removed to RF. The most recent concluding observations on RF (CEDAW/C/RUS/CO/9, 30 November 2021) predate the full-scale invasion; this submission draws the Committee's attention to the resulting change in circumstances.

This submission concerns **articles 1, 2, 6, 12, 14 (2) (b) and 15 of the Convention, read with General Recommendations Nos. 19, 24, 30 and 35, and Security Council resolutions 1325 (2000), 1820 (2008) and 2467 (2019)**; the provisions engaged are indicated in each section heading.

2. Methodology, Sources and Data Limitations

This submission is based on information contained in the KHPG Databases as of 1 August 2026:

Dataset	Number of records	Type of source
Attacks and other acts affecting maternity hospitals and obstetric care facilities	50	Open-source
Disappearances of women	306	Open-source
Conflict-related sexual violence (CRSV) against women	29	Open-source
	48	Closed-source (KHPG legal assistance case files)
Other violations of women's rights	213	Open-source

Each record contains a unique identifier, date, location, description and sources. Open sources include official Ukrainian communications, media reports, public missing-persons registers and NGO reports; closed sources are anonymised information from KHPG's hotline and fieldwork.

The data contained in KHPG's closed legal database were collected in the course of providing legal representation to victims and cannot be independently verified against publicly available materials.

Sources are cited as KHPG Database identifiers: **ID 000000** (open-source) and KHPG, legal assistance materials, **record 000000** (closed-source). Full references and URLs for open-source records are available at the Committee's request. Personal data have been anonymised throughout..

Data Limitations

A single incident may generate several records — one per affected facility or victim. The attack on Odesa of 14 August 2023 accounts for five records; the 213 records on "Other violations" correspond to approximately 190 incidents. The number of records does not reflect the scale of the violations, particularly for sexual violence and for the occupied territories, where documentation is extremely difficult. The distribution of records by year reflects changes in the ability to document, not only changes in incidence. The same person or incident may appear in more than one dataset, since the datasets were compiled by type of violation rather than by victim; records should therefore not be aggregated as unique individuals or incidents.

3. Issue I. Attacks on Maternity Facilities (arts. 12; 14 (2) (b); 2, read with General Recommendations Nos. 24 and 30)

The KHPG Databases document 34 incidents across 13 regions of Ukraine between 28 February 2022 and 1 June 2026.

29 incidents were strikes on maternity facilities: tube artillery and bombardment (23 records), Shahed/Geran-type attack UAVs (5), missile strikes including S-300 and Kalibr (4), air strikes (3), FPV drones (2). / 4 incidents were seizures of maternity facilities and their conversion into military hospitals, with removal of property and eviction of patients — all in the Luhansk region. / 1 incident involved a maternity facility used to shelter military equipment: Mykhailivka, Zaporizhzhia region, 18 November 2022, equipment positioned below the wards (ID 26722).

3.1. Overview of Selected Documented Incidents

Mariupol, 9 March 2022 — air strike on the children's and maternity hospital complex at 80 Myru Av.; three killed, including a child (ID 1249). Maternity Hospital No. 1, 31 Metalurhiina St., shelled on 2 March and between 20 March and 1 April 2022 (IDs 2684, 4434).

Vilniansk, Zaporizhzhia region, 23 November 2022 — S-300 missile on the central district hospital; the maternity unit building destroyed, a newborn killed, the mother injured, two doctors pulled from the rubble, one with burns to 37 per cent of the body (ID 27113).

Kherson, Z.S. Klymenko Level II Perinatal Centre, 1 Hoholia St. — struck by an FPV drone on 4 October 2025 during a delivery, causing extensive damage (ID 94276), and again by an FPV drone on 8 November 2025 (ID 93344).

Odesa, Maternity Hospital No. 5, 28 March 2026 — UAV strike. Present at the time: 32 pregnant and post-partum women, 22 newborns (some on mechanical ventilation) and 33 medical staff, more than 80 people in total. No casualties (ID 112702).

Sloviansk, Donetsk region, 30 March 2026 — air strike on the maternity hospital, then the only functioning facility of its kind in the region (ID 104098).

Bilhorod-Dnistrovskiy, Odesa region, 1 June 2026 – hospital maternity unit damaged (façade, doors, more than 30 windows). Six post-partum women with newborns were in the unit and another woman was in labour; the delivery was conducted in a shelter (ID 109530).

Mykolaiv — Municipal Maternity Hospital No. 1 and its antenatal clinic struck on 21 March and 4 April 2022 (IDs 43352, 46129); both of the city's maternity hospitals hit by S-300 missiles on 1 October 2022 (IDs 23519, 23520).

Luhansk region — conversion. Antratsyt, 10 January 2023 — pregnant women removed from a maternity hospital so that it could be converted into a military hospital (ID 33352). Luhansk, 31 January 2023 — "field hospitals" for Russian personnel established at the regional hospital's maternity facility and at Maternity Hospital No. 3 (IDs 32251, 32252); 27 May 2023 — Maternity Hospital No. 2 transferred to the Wagner private military company (ID 42777). Novoposkov, 30 June 2023 — furniture removed and a hospital established in the building (ID 45547).

Other incidents: Buzova, Kyiv region — 28 February 2022, the «Adonis» maternity hospital was damaged and subsequently caught fire (ID 3952); Zhytomyr Regional Perinatal Centre — 1 March 2022, women who had recently given birth and newborns were evacuated to the basement (ID 12922); Chernihiv — 15 March 2022, fragments and shattered glass entered hospital wards (ID 36332); Trostianets, Sumy region — 24 March 2022, some deliveries were conducted in the basement during attacks (ID 42629); Bashtanka, Mykolaiv region — 19 April 2022 (ID 11112); Sievierodonetsk — 7 July 2022, the maternity hospital was destroyed (ID 56062); Sarny, Rivne region — 28 August 2022 (ID 17790); Sloviansk — 29 August 2022 (ID 17902); Toretsk — 13 November 2022 (ID 26155); Kherson, Afanasiev Hospital — 27 December 2022 (ID 31969); Tokarivka, Kherson region — 24 January 2023 (ID 33325); Nikopol — 18 February 2023 (ID 34512); Odesa, Maternity Hospital No. 2 and antenatal clinic — 14 August 2023 (IDs 52911, 52912); Dnipro — 29 December 2023 (IDs

62103, 62104); Kharkiv — 11 July 2025 and 24 January 2026 (IDs 92740, 98502); Zaporizhzhia — 1 February 2026 (ID 98679).

3.2. Indications of the Systematic Nature of the Violations

1. **Geographical scope and duration.** 13 of Ukraine's 24 regions, frontline and rear alike, from February 2022 to June 2026 — not explicable by localised hostilities.
2. **Repeated strikes on the same facilities.** The Klymenko Perinatal Centre was struck twice within five weeks in autumn 2025; Mykolaiv Maternity Hospital No. 1 in March, April and October 2022; the Sloviansk maternity hospital in August 2022 and March 2026. Repeated strikes on a facility whose function was publicly known call for explanation.
3. **Use of weapons enabling precise visual targeting.** FPV drones (Kherson) entail visual observation of the target up to impact, which is hard to reconcile with indiscriminate or accidental impact.
4. **Strikes during obstetric care.** In Kherson (4 October 2025) and Bilhorod-Dnistrovskiy (1 June 2026) deliveries were under way; in Odesa (28 March 2026) 54 women and newborns were in the building, some non-transportable.
5. **A strike on the last functioning specialised facility in a region** (Sloviansk, March 2026), maximising the humanitarian consequences for pregnant women throughout the region.
6. **Conversion of maternity facilities into military hospitals in occupied territory** is not incidental damage but the deliberate conversion of maternal health-care infrastructure to military use (Antratsyt).
7. **Cumulative impact.** The destruction and removal from civilian use of maternity infrastructure is gender-specific by its nature: it affects women in connection with pregnancy and childbirth, and newborns.

3.3. Questions to the Russian Federation

1. **Provide a list of health-care facilities in the territory of Ukraine that were struck by the Armed Forces of RF during military operations conducted since 24 February 2022,** indicating whether, prior to each strike, the facility had been identified as a maternity or obstetric care facility and what target-verification procedures were used to establish its status.
2. **What rules governing the use of force and target-identification procedures apply to facilities displaying distinctive emblems or registered as medical facilities?** How are those rules communicated to and implemented by operators of attack UAVs and FPV drones?
3. **How many internal, disciplinary or criminal investigations have been opened into strikes affecting maternity and obstetric care facilities in Ukraine?** How many have been completed, what were their findings, and in how many cases, if any, have individuals been held accountable?
4. **For the following incidents, indicate whether each was investigated and provide the findings:** the strike on the maternity hospital in Vilniansk, 23 November 2022, which killed a newborn; the strikes on the Klymenko Perinatal Centre in Kherson, 4 October and 8 November 2025; the strike on Maternity Hospital No. 5 in Odesa, 28 March 2026; the air strike on the maternity hospital in Sloviansk, 30 March 2026.
5. **On what legal basis were maternity and obstetric care facilities in the occupied territory of Ukraine, including in Antratsyt, Luhansk and Novoposkov, taken over and converted into military hospitals?** Where and under what conditions are women who previously relied on those facilities now receiving maternity and obstetric care? How is access to specialised medical care ensured in cases of complicated pregnancy and childbirth?
6. **What measures have been taken to ensure access to safe maternity and obstetric care for pregnant women and women in labour in territories under the effective control of RF?** Please provide data on maternal and neonatal mortality in those territories for the period 2022–2026, together with the methodology used to collect the relevant data.
7. **How does RF ensure compliance with article 12 of the Convention with respect to women under its effective control in the territory of Ukraine?**

4. Issue II. Enforced Disappearances of Women (arts. 1, 2 and 15; General Recommendation No. 30)

The dataset contains 306 records concerning the disappearance of women: 274 records relate to 2022, 26 to 2023, and 6 to 2024. Geographically, the records are distributed as follows: Kharkiv region — 225; Zaporizhzhia region — 34; Kyiv region — 17; Donetsk and Kherson regions — 9 each; Mykolaiv region — 7; Chernihiv region — 4; and Luhansk region — 1.

The first group, approximately 245 records, contains no detail on the circumstances: brief reports by relatives and entries in missing-persons registers (“a woman disappeared in Izium”; “a woman disappeared during hostilities in unknown circumstances”), concentrated in Izium (91) and Kharkiv (26). These records do not establish the involvement of Russian forces and are used here solely as an indicator of the scale of unresolved disappearances.

The second group, approximately 60 records, contains direct indications of the involvement of RF armed forces, security services or occupation administrations. This body of data is the subject of the present section and identifies recurring patterns of conduct.

Among these 60 records, women whose professional or public roles made them visible are disproportionately represented: journalists (3), volunteers (3), civil society activists (2), medical workers (6), police officers and women who had taken part in hostilities (6). A distinct category consists of women targeted because of sons or husbands serving in the Armed Forces of Ukraine.

4.1. Typology of Documented Incidents

(1) Removal from the home by armed groups. The most common pattern: armed persons in uniform, often in balaclavas, arrive at night or in the early morning, search the home, seize telephones and documents and take the woman away without procedural documents or disclosure of the destination. Examples: Olshana village, Kupiansk district (IDs 34545, 34552); Heroiske village, Kherson region, 31 August 2022 — a 57-year-old woman with a heart condition (ID 20305); Raiske village, Kherson region, 8 July 2022 — a vocational school employee, after refusing to cooperate with the occupation administration (ID 13627); Kherson, 23 August 2022 — a kindergarten teacher (ID 17667).

(2) Abduction by the FSB and other security services. Pryazovske, Zaporizhzhia region, 20 August 2023 — a 32-year-old woman abducted from her home after FSB officers forced the door (IDs 72333, 59013, 50644). Melitopol, 20 August 2023 — journalist A.G. detained; published video shows armed men breaking into the apartment, searching it, handcuffing her and taking her away. In writing, the FSB stated that no such person had been detained (ID 72315).

(3) Disappearance after "filtration" and at checkpoints during evacuation. Mariupol — a woman disappeared after "filtration" (ID 54342). Bezimenne, Donetsk region, June 2022 — a mother and grandmother underwent "filtration", after which contact was lost (ID 35421). Samaryna Balka, 20 March 2022 — a patrol police officer detained at a checkpoint (ID 15465).

(4) Removal of wounded and ill women "to an unknown destination" under the pretext of treatment. Izium, 18 March 2022 — a woman injured by shelling taken out of the city, reportedly to a Russian hospital (ID 7890). Tsupivka village, Kharkiv region, 9 September 2022 — a seriously ill, unconscious woman removed "for health reasons" (ID 21578). Bilohirka village, Kherson region, June 2022 — taken away purportedly for transfer to a hospital in Beryslav (ID 90895). A similar incident in Kupiansk, June 2022 (ID 51033).

(5) Detention with concealment of whereabouts, followed by death or a “sentence”. Melitopol, 20 August 2023 — a Ukrainian civilian woman held in a temporary detention facility died on 12 May

2024 (ID 95499). Melitopol, 9 January 2023 — volunteer M.Kh., taken from her home, was subsequently "sentenced" to 20 years' imprisonment (ID 30966).

4.2. Indications of the Systematic Nature of the Violations

1. **Consistency of method** across several years and territories hundreds of kilometres apart: night or early-morning operations, armed groups, searches, confiscation of communications, no procedural documentation, refusal to disclose the destination.
2. **Institutional denial.** The defining element of enforced disappearance is refusal to acknowledge the deprivation of liberty or concealment of the person's fate. The case of A.G., where the FSB denied the detention in writing despite published video of it, is direct documentary evidence of the practice.
3. **Absence of an accessible tracing mechanism.** Relatives approach commandant's offices and "police" departments and submit formal inquiries, receiving no information. The absence of a register of civilians deprived of liberty and the failure to notify relatives make the disappearance a continuing violation.
4. **Two waves.** The first, in 2022, coincided with the establishment of occupation control. The second, in 2023, was concentrated in the Zaporizhzhia region (Melitopol, Pryazovske, Berdiansk) and had the character of a targeted "cleansing" of persons holding pro-Ukrainian views — which undermines explanations based on the chaos of active hostilities.

4.3. Questions to the Russian Federation

1. **Does RF maintain a centralised register of Ukrainian civilians deprived of liberty by its armed forces, security services or occupation authorities?** Please provide data disaggregated by sex, age, date and place of detention, place of confinement, and current status.
2. **What official mechanism is available to relatives, particularly those residing in the territory of Ukraine, of civilians deprived of liberty to establish whether a person has been detained and where that person is being held?** Which authority bears responsibility for providing such information, and within what time frame?
3. **Please comment on cases in which FSB bodies have denied in writing that an individual was detained despite the existence of published video footage showing the detention.**
4. **As of the date of the response, how many Ukrainian civilian women are being held in places of detention in the territory of RF and in territories under its effective control?** In which facilities are they held? What is their official legal status? Do they have access to the International Committee of the Red Cross, lawyers of their own choosing, and correspondence with relatives?
5. **How many criminal investigations have been opened in RF into the abduction or unlawful deprivation of liberty of Ukrainian civilians?** How many individuals have been prosecuted or otherwise held accountable?
6. **What were the circumstances surrounding the death of the Ukrainian civilian woman held in the temporary detention facility in the Melitopol district on 12 May 2024?** Was an investigation conducted? If so, what were its findings, and were the woman's relatives notified?

5. Issue III. Conflict-Related Sexual Violence (CRSV) (arts. 1, 2, 6 and 12; General Recommendations Nos. 19, 30 and 35; Security Council resolutions 1325 (2000), 1820 (2008) and 2467 (2019))

5.1. Sources for this Section and the Preliminary Nature of the Legal Characterisation

The dataset contains information from open sources and from KHPG's closed legal assistance database; the categories partially overlap:

- 17 records describing specific acts of sexual violence, including acts involving penetration;
- 21 records in which the victim or the documenting staff member expressly characterised the conduct as sexual or sexualised violence;
- 9 records involving threats of rape and sexual harassment without a documented completed sexual act;
- 20 records involving forced nudity, full-strip searches or invasive searches;
- 9 records describing torture and ill-treatment without a documented sexual component.

A significant proportion of these acts may, upon final legal assessment, be characterised not as CRSV in the narrow sense, but as torture or inhuman or degrading treatment involving a sexualised component. For the purposes of the Convention, however, this distinction is not determinative: both categories fall within the scope of articles 1, 2 and 6, as interpreted in General Recommendations Nos. 19, 30 and 35, insofar as the violence is directed against a woman because she is a woman or affects women disproportionately.

The uncertainty of this boundary is itself a matter for the Committee: it is unclear whether RF records such acts at all, and under what category.

The figures reflect not the scale of the phenomenon but the portion accessible to documentation. Underreporting of sexual violence is universal and is sharply aggravated under occupation, where the victim remains under the control of the same structure whose representatives committed the violence.

Expanding the source base to legal assistance materials more than doubled the number of records and revealed a set of practices wholly absent from open sources.

Geographical scope and period. In the open-source dataset, the records are distributed as follows: Kharkiv region — 16; Kherson, Sumy and Kyiv regions — 3 each; Donetsk and Mykolaiv regions — 2 each. In the closed-source dataset: Kharkiv region — 32; Donetsk region — 13; Kyiv region — 2; and Chernihiv region — 1.

By year, the closed-source dataset: 2019 — 1; 2021 — 2; 2022 — 44; 2023 — 1. The records from 2019 and 2021 are significant: the practices described did not originate in February 2022 but had already occurred in previously occupied parts of the Donetsk region, including the secret detention facility "Izolyatsia" in Donetsk and in Torez (records 1008086, 1000680, 1009189).

5.2. Typology of Documented Incidents

(1) In places of detention and during interrogations.

Izium, 20 April 2022 — servicemen of the 99th Artillery Regiment arrived at a woman's home in an APC, fired shots and took her away that evening; acts of a sexual nature were committed against her during transport (ID 50722).

Izium, July 2022 — a woman held for ten days, subjected to electric shocks and repeated rape, including forced oral sex (IDs 30291–30293). In the same locality, a woman was held in a shed for ten days and subjected to oral rape, of which the perpetrators then informed her husband (ID 22220).

In Balakliia, Strilecha, Borova and Kupiansk, records describe combinations of unlawful detention, torture and sexual violence (IDs 88973, 87360, 81209, 65195).

(2) During searches of homes and so-called “security sweeps”.

Pokrovsk, Donetsk region, 22 December 2025 — three servicemen of the 30th Motor Rifle Brigade, intoxicated, entered a family home, killed a man and raped his wife. The circumstances are known from the victim's video testimony given to a representative of the Russian military police (ID 95782).

In Bohdanivka, Kyiv region, on 10 April 2022, servicemen killed a man and raped his wife while threatening violence against her three-year-old son; the house was burned when they withdrew (ID 22753).

In Kharkiv, a serviceman remained in a woman's apartment and raped the 29-year-old woman repeatedly over the course of a week; after she refused to leave with him, he killed her elderly mother (ID 1281).

(3) In shelters and basements where civilians were taking refuge.

In Mariupol, on 26 March 2022, a 19-year-old woman was taken out of a basement on the pretext of checking her documents and was raped in an apartment (ID 50711).

Yahidne, Chernihiv region — some 350 villagers were held in a school basement beneath a military headquarters and used as human shields. On 9 March 2022 a serviceman committed acts of sexual violence there (ID 35431); one of the detained women was raped twice (record 1007523).

(4) In connection with evacuation and “filtration”.

In the Bashtanka district of Mykolaiv region, in March 2022, a 31-year-old woman was raped during a search of her home conducted as part of “filtration measures”, under threats of violence against her and her child (ID 19194).

(5) Prolonged sexual violence in the victim's home. Legal assistance materials reveal a pattern absent from open-source reporting: a serviceman takes up residence in a woman's home without permission and commits sexual violence over a period of months.

In one case, the serviceman declared that he would live in the woman's house and, when she objected, threatened that she and her son would be “used up” — that anyone who wished could rape them all day. She believed the threat: shortly before, she had seen a woman tied to the bonnet of a vehicle near a school, accessible to any serviceman throughout the day. Anal, oral and vaginal rape occurred almost daily from early May to early September 2022. She stayed silent because her child was in the next room (record 83024).

(6) Gang rape approved by the command structure. Izium, 22 August 2022 — a woman with a second-degree disability was chained by the hand to a tree in a courtyard, her clothes cut with a knife and she was beaten; three RF servicemen then subjected her to oral, anal and vaginal rape. A member of the command arriving immediately afterwards praised the perpetrators and, pointing to the victim,

said the owners now had a new dog. She bled for about two weeks; after de-occupation she underwent surgery and was told she had permanently lost the ability to bear children (record 1002542).

5.3. Abusive and Sexualised Practices in Russian Penitentiary Institutions

Analysis of the legal assistance materials also revealed a recurring institutional pattern affecting women held in detention. Eight records describe the same transfer route and substantially the same set of procedures.

Route: capture at the Illich Iron and Steel Works, Mariupol, 12–13 April 2022 → Sartana → Olenivka (disciplinary unit, Penal Colony No. 120) → SIZO No. 2, Taganrog → Penal Colony No. 9, Valuyki (Belgorod region) → Penal Colony No. 11, Mala Loknia (Kursk region) or SIZO No. 1, Kursk. Separate records describe the same procedures for women captured elsewhere, including Lyman in May 2022 (record 1009334).

The following procedures were repeatedly applied upon admission to each of these facilities:

- forced complete undressing and inspection in the presence of male staff — documented in all five facilities named above (records 51200, 54739, 51216, 44259, 65225, 1009334);
- invasive searches involving the insertion of fingers into the vagina and anus, including without changing gloves between detainees (records 51200, 54739);
- forced squatting and bending while naked, purportedly for inspection purposes (records 51216, 51200);
- repeated photographing of victims while completely naked (record 51200);
- forcing naked women to move through corridors and offices in the presence of male guards, in one case accompanied by service dogs (record 44259);
- prolonged detention while naked, without water or food, while awaiting allocation to cells (record 1009334);
- threats of rape during interrogations, including throwing condoms at victims and threatening to transfer them to cells with convicted male prisoners (records 54739, 51216);
- extreme overcrowding: 40 women held in a cell designed for four people in Olenivka, and 17 and 14 women respectively held in cells designed for two people (records 44259, 48130, 44402);
- lack of basic personal hygiene items for months and access to washing only once a week, for three minutes, using ice-cold water (record 44259);
- coercion to renounce Ukrainian citizenship and prisoner-of-war status and to obtain citizenship of RF (record 51200).

Particular attention should be paid to the long-term consequences for reproductive and mental health: cessation of menstruation followed by the need for hormonal treatment (record 44259); vaginal tears and prolonged bleeding (records 66767, 1002542); irreversible loss of fertility (record 1002542); and suicidal ideation (record 66767).

Associated circumstances. In 5 records the sexual violence was directly linked to the killing of a family member or of the victim herself (Pokrovsk, Bohdanivka, Lymanets, Kharkiv, Izium); in 5, firearms were used to suppress resistance — in one case a serviceman forced a naked woman to her knees, placed a rifle barrel against her forehead and fired, grazing her scalp (record 66767).

In 26 of the 48 closed-source records the victim's children were nearby. Where ages are specified, victims range from 16 (a pregnant girl, Trudoliubivka village, Kherson region) to 83 (Izium). The same testimony describes the rape of a 10-year-old girl and a 12-year-old boy with serious bodily injuries (IDs 2110, 28655).

5.4. Indications of the Systematic Nature of the Violations

1. **Institutional character of the practices.** Forced nudity in the presence of men, invasive searches, squatting while naked and photographing naked detainees recur in substantially identical form across five institutions of the Russian penal system — Olenivka, Taganrog, Valuyki, Mala Loknia and Kursk — located in four regions and subordinate to different territorial administrations. This indicates an established procedure rather than the conduct of individual staff.
2. **Some acts were committed within RF territory.** Taganrog, Valuyki, Mala Loknia and Kursk are in the Rostov, Belgorod and Kursk regions. For these incidents no question of extraterritorial application arises: the State party's obligations apply in their most direct territorial form.
3. **Replication of the pattern by different units.** The records identify the 30th Motor Rifle Brigade, the 99th Artillery Regiment, the 2nd Guards Tamanskaya Division of the 1st Tank Army, units composed of personnel from Chechnya, Tuva and Dagestan, and formations of the so-called "LPR" and "DPR". Recurrence across formations with different chains of command indicates a failure of institutional safeguards rather than isolated misconduct.
4. **Awareness and approval within the command structure.** The commander who arrived immediately after a gang rape and praised the perpetrators (record 1002542), and the months-long violence by a serviceman openly residing in the victim's home (record 83024), exclude any explanation that the acts were concealed from those in authority.
5. **Violations in locations under institutional control.** Headquarters, temporary detention facilities, commandant's offices, penal colonies, SIZOs and hospital and school premises adapted for detention are all under institutional control; violence there cannot remain unknown to the administration.
6. **Threats of rape as an interrogation method.** Besides records in the "Other violations" dataset (IDs 80614, 70905, 77919, 30190), threats were documented as an element of interrogations by security-service personnel in Taganrog and Olenivka (records 54739, 51216) — an instrumental rather than situational use.
7. **Continuity before February 2022.** Records from 2019 and 2021 on "Izolyatsia" in Donetsk and on Torez describe the same set of methods; the practice predates the full-scale invasion.
8. **No known response from the Russian side.** All identified proceedings are conducted by Ukrainian authorities, largely in absentia. The single instance of a victim testifying to the Russian military police (Pokrovsk, December 2025) has no known follow-up.

5.5. Questions to the Russian Federation

1. **Do the military prosecutor's offices, the Investigative Committee and the military police of RF maintain records of reports of sexual violence committed by military personnel or staff of penitentiary institutions against civilians in the territory of Ukraine?** Please provide data for 2022–2026 on the number of reports received, investigations or criminal cases opened, cases referred to court, and convictions handed down.
2. **What procedures apply to the receipt and examination of such a report where the victim is located in territory controlled by RF?** Which authority or official is authorised to receive the complaint, and what safeguards are provided to ensure the complainant's safety?
3. **Has the military command issued orders, regulations or other documents expressly prohibiting sexual violence against civilians and establishing the responsibility of**

commanders for failure to take appropriate measures? Please provide the content of such documents and explain how they are communicated to military personnel.

4. **Please provide the regulations and internal instructions currently governing personal searches of women upon admission to pre-trial detention centres and correctional institutions administered by the Federal Penitentiary Service (FSIN).** In particular, please indicate:
 - whether a woman undergoing a search may be required to undress completely;
 - whether male staff members may be present;
 - whether searches involving penetration of body cavities are permitted and, if so, who is authorised to conduct them;
 - whether gloves must be changed between persons undergoing such searches; and
 - whether a person may be photographed while naked and, if so, for what purpose.
5. **Were these procedures applied to Ukrainian women held in 2022 in the four facilities named in section 5.3?** Were any inspections or investigations conducted into compliance with search procedures there, and what were their findings?
6. **How were the rights of women held in those institutions to personal hygiene products, adequate sanitary and hygienic conditions, gynaecological care and medical assistance for menstrual health problems ensured?** What was the actual occupancy of the cells in which those women were held?
7. **Were Ukrainian women deprived of their liberty required to renounce Ukrainian citizenship or prisoner-of-war status, or to acquire citizenship of RF?** If so, on what legal basis?
8. **What measures are in place to prevent sexual violence in facilities where civilians and prisoners of war are held?** Please provide information, in particular, on the separation of women and men, the availability of female custodial staff, the prohibition of strip searches, confidential complaints mechanisms and independent monitoring.
9. **Do victims of sexual violence have access to medical care, including sexual and reproductive health services and emergency contraception, as well as psychological support?** If so, under what conditions and through what procedures?
10. **Does RF provide any mechanism for reparation for victims of sexual violence committed by its military personnel or staff of its penitentiary institutions, including reparation for harm to reproductive health?**

6. Issue IV. Other Violations of Women's Rights

The dataset contains 213 records covering approximately 190 incidents; 212 relate to ten regions: Kharkiv — 111; Kyiv — 26; Donetsk — 18; Luhansk — 15; Kherson — 14; Chernihiv — 12; Zaporizhzhia — 7; Sumy — 4; Mykolaiv — 3; Zhytomyr — 2.

6.1. Unlawful Deprivation of Liberty and Torture of Women

Deprivation of liberty is indicated in 122 records and torture or other ill-treatment in 67. Places of detention include basements of homes and schools, "police" departments, shops, garages, warehouses, an industrial plant, a church, temporary detention facilities, SIZOs in Mariupol and the Rostov region, and penal colonies in RF.

The records document the following gender-specific forms of treatment:

- forced undressing and searches while naked, including before male military personnel (9 records): a woman not permitted to dress except in the presence of an armed man (ID 59787); a teacher from Balakliia taken from her home undressed (IDs 20121, 20123);
- holding women in shared cells or other premises together with men (IDs 59762, 46048, 47716);
- threats of rape as a means of coercion during interrogation (IDs 80614, 77919, 70905);
- forcing women to remain standing while undressed for prolonged periods in freezing temperatures of approximately -17°C (IDs 60134, 59777);
- the use of electric shocks (15 records), including a case in which a woman was subjected to electric shocks, doused with cold water and deprived of food for four days (IDs 37095–37097);
- lack of access to hygiene and medical care: in one case, a woman who suffered a stroke while in a cell spent three days sitting upright because lying down during the daytime was prohibited. She was not admitted to hospital; she lost 40 kilograms in weight and sustained knocked-out teeth and broken bones (ID 93943).

Deaths of women in places of detention. In Yahidne village, Chernihiv region, elderly women and women with limited mobility were transported to a school basement in a garden wheelbarrow. At least four women reportedly died in circumstances involving oxygen deprivation and an inability to lie down (IDs 39449, 39450, 39474, 39475).

6.2. Persecution for Pro-Ukrainian Views and “Sentences” Imposed by Occupation “Courts”

Fifteen records document the application of Russian criminal law to Ukrainian women in occupied territory, including the following cases:

- a resident of the Kherson region, Yu.S., was sentenced to 12 years and 6 months' imprisonment for transferring funds (ID 92946);
- a resident of Enerhodar was sentenced to 14 years' imprisonment for six transfers to Ukrainian volunteers totalling approximately UAH 3,000 (ID 99608). Notably, in this cases the occupation “court” expressly cited the convicted woman's possession of Russian citizenship as a circumstance aggravating her culpability;
- a resident of Rubanivka village, Kherson region, was sentenced to 3 years' imprisonment for publishing information about a fundraising campaign (ID 93438);

- Kherson activist I.H. was sentenced to 10 years and 6 months' imprisonment on charges of espionage and was transferred to serve her sentence in the Republic of Mordovia, outside the occupied territory (ID 92766);
- a resident of the Novotroitske community was charged under article 280 (2) of the Criminal Code of RF ("public calls for extremist activity") (ID 97664).

6.3. Coercive Imposition of Russian Citizenship and Conditioning Access to Essential Services

Eleven records concern forced passportisation. In December 2023 alone, the Secretariat of the Ukrainian Parliament Commissioner for Human Rights received 40 complaints concerning forced passportisation in occupied territories.

In one documented case, a woman who remained in occupied Enerhodar was informed that, from January onwards, without a Russian passport she would no longer be able to receive medical care and would be disconnected from the Internet, her only means of communicating with her family. Searches were also conducted at her home, and she was subjected to continuous psychological pressure and threats to her life (ID 64328).

6.4. Use of Children and Family Members as a Means of Exerting Pressure on Women

Six records document threats or other acts aimed at severing or exploiting the relationship between a mother and her child:

- Kupiansk, June 2022 — Russian military police came to the home of a mother of seven children and took her and her daughter to a police department, threatening to deprive her of parental rights and deport the children to RF (ID 78707);
- Boromlia village, Sumy region, March 2022 — during a mock execution intended to obtain information about the woman's son, who was serving in the military, she was threatened that her minor grandson would be taken away (ID 89318);
- Kozacha Lopan, Kharkiv region, August 2022 — a child was sent to a camp in RF and was not returned to the mother (ID 20751);
- Bairak village, Kharkiv region, 5 September 2022 — a woman and her three minor children were taken to an unknown destination (ID 20021);
- Snihurivka, Mykolaiv region — two underage girls were abducted and threatened with having their fingers cut off in an attempt to obtain information about Ukrainian military personnel (ID 29496);
- Novopskov, Luhansk region, April 2024 — a woman who had left the occupied territory was blackmailed using a video recording of her parents made under duress (ID 71072).

6.5. Forced Displacement and "Expulsions"

Five records document the forced displacement of civilians. In Stanytsia Luhanska, as of June 2023, women and children under the age of 14 were reportedly being compelled to leave (ID 44512). In Dniprorudne and surrounding villages in the Zaporizhzhia region, publicly reported "expulsions" of persons with pro-Ukrainian views were carried out in January 2023 (IDs 31502, 31486, 32439).

6.6. Questions to the Russian Federation

1. **What rules govern the detention of civilian women in places of deprivation of liberty under the control of RF**, including with respect to separation from male detainees, the availability of female staff, personal search procedures, access to hygiene products, gynaecological care and pregnancy-related health care?
2. **How many Ukrainian women have been “convicted” by courts operating in the occupied territories of Ukraine or by courts of RF for acts committed in the territory of Ukraine?** Please provide data disaggregated by the criminal charges brought, length of sentence and place where the sentence is being served.
3. **On what legal basis are Ukrainian women “convicted” in occupied territory transferred to locations within RF to serve their sentences?** How is their right to maintain contact with and receive visits from family members, including minor children, ensured?
4. **Is access to medical care, social benefits and communications services in territories under the effective control of RF?** What is the legal basis for any such practice, and what are its consequences for women who refuse to acquire Russian citizenship?
5. **What measures have been taken to ensure women’s access to sexual and reproductive health services in occupied territories**, including antenatal care, contraception and screening programmes?
6. **Have cases involving threats to deprive women of parental rights or to transfer their children to RF as a means of pressure during interrogation been investigated?** How many children removed from the territory of Ukraine have been reunited with their mothers, and what procedure is available for such reunification?
7. **What measures have been taken to establish the fate of civilians who died in places of detention established or operated by the Armed Forces of RF and to ensure accountability for their deaths**, including the deaths of elderly women in Yahidne village, Chernihiv region, in March 2022?
8. **Is there a mechanism in RF through which a Ukrainian woman who has suffered harm as a result of actions by RF’s armed forces can lodge a complaint, obtain access to justice and seek reparation?** How many such complaints have been submitted, and in how many cases has relief or reparation been granted?