

ABUSE AND DETENTION OF GAY MEN IN CHECHNYA MUST END

World Association for Sexual Health condemns all forms of abuse and violence against gay people in Chechnya. Detention and persecution by sexual orientation only is unlawful and in direct violation of human rights and sexual rights.

United Nations experts and human rights organisations report of abductions, unlawful detentions, torture, beatings and killings targeted against gay people in Chechnya. According to Human Rights Watch the attacks appear to be systematic and supported by religious and political leaders.

UN OHCHR reports that much of the abuse takes place at an unofficial detention centre close to the city of Argun, where “the arrested men are subjected to physical and verbal abuse, torture including with electric shocks, beatings, insults and humiliations.”

These attacks are direct violations of human rights and sexual rights. The Declaration of Sexual Rights (WAS 2014) states that every human being has the right to liberty and security, and everyone should be free from cruel, inhuman, or degrading treatment regardless of their sexual orientation or gender identity. Freedom from violence and discrimination are fundamental human rights, which must be granted to everyone.

World Association for Sexual Health condemns all forms of violence, oppression and discrimination against gay people, and urges all nations and international organisations to condemn such blatant violations of human rights and sexual rights.

The World Association for Sexual Health (WAS) is an international organization with members across the globe that promotes and advocates for sexual health and sexual rights throughout the lifespan and across the world by advancing the field of sexology, sexuality research, comprehensive sexuality education, and clinical care and services, all of these informed by evidence and scientific enquiry.



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