

# Top Moscow University Official Resigns After Anti-Gay Remarks

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Andrei Bukhantsov [Andrei Bukhantsov / VK](#)

A student ombudsman at one of Moscow's largest universities has resigned after making homophobic comments online.

Andrei Bukhantsov, a fourth-year student at the capital's Higher School of Economics announced his resignation on social media on Wednesday evening.

"Over the last two weeks I've had a lot of criticism thrown at me just because of an unfortunate joke," he wrote.

"I would be lying if I said that this situation was not difficult for me, and I consider it right to step down and give my post to [student politician Fedor Kabanov]: someone who has supported me both as my competitor during elections and during my time as an elected official."

**Related article: [Panic Mode: Moscow Probe Into Anti-Gay Purge Has Chechen Leaders Rattled](#)**

**[Hundreds of students signed a petition](#) calling for Bukhantsov's resignation after he described an opposition protest against Moscow City Hall's as "a gay parade."**

He stirred discontent when he attempted to apologize, telling his followers on Russian social network Vkontakte that he was "sorry for confusing gays with ordinary people."

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