

# Chechen Leader Threatens to Break Fingers, Tear Out Tongues of Online Critics

June 14, 2019

**The  Moscow Times**

The leader of Russia's republic of Chechnya has threatened to break the fingers and tear out the tongues of anyone who leaves offensive comments about his subjects online.

Residents of the neighboring republic of Dagestan have expressed outrage this week over a new sign that was installed near their border that marked the area as Chechnya. Dagestani protesters saw the sign as a land grab and [tore](#) it down on Monday, only to have it reinstalled on Tuesday by Chechen authorities, who say the area has always been part of their republic.

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