

Russian TV Comics' Kazakh Tour Canceled After Visit to Occupied Ukraine

September 14, 2023



Azamat Musagaliev **Social media**

Organizers in Kazakhstan have canceled a popular Russian sketch comedy group's tour following backlash over its visit to Russian-occupied Ukrainian territory, Kazakh media [reported](#) Thursday.

Kamyzyaki, veterans of Russia's longest-running comedy television show KVN, [performed](#) and gave [interviews](#) last weekend at a World War II event in Donetsk, an eastern Ukrainian region partially controlled by Russian forces.

Social media users accused Kamyzyaki of supporting Russia's invasion of Ukraine and [demanded](#) that the group scrap its shows in Kazakhstan scheduled for early October.

Embed:

“In view of the high-profile negative feedback on the public actions of Kamyzyaki, the team

of organizers has decided to completely cancel its tour in Kazakhstan,” organizer Olga Lee [said](#) on Instagram.

Kamyzyaki’s leader, Azamat Musagaliyev, is an ethnic Kazakh from southern Russia’s Astrakhan region.

Kazakhstan and its Central Asian neighbors have regularly [canceled](#) entertainment events involving pro-war figures since the start of Russia’s invasion of Ukraine in 2022.

Related article: [Moscow's Consul in Kazakhstan Dismissed After Criticizing Decline of Russian Language Teaching](#)

In Russia, a number of prominent cultural figures who publicly oppose the invasion of Ukraine while remaining in the country have faced backlash, canceled performances and fines.

Kazakhstan has walked a diplomatic [tightrope](#) of maintaining friendly ties with Russia while staying neutral on the conflict.

Original url:

<https://www.themoscowtimes.com/2023/09/14/russian-tv-comics-kazakh-tour-canceled-after-visit-to-occupied-ukraine-a82457>