

Russia Charges Crimean Tatar Activist Over Facebook Posts

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Lutfiye Zudieva. **Lutfiye Zudieva / Facebook**

Moscow-installed authorities in annexed Crimea have charged Crimean Tatar activist and citizen journalist Lutfiye Zudiyeva with “misuse of freedom of mass media,” the advocacy group Crimean Solidarity [said](#) Thursday.

Several masked agents were [filmed](#) escorting Zudiyeva from her home in Dzhankoi, a town located in the north of the Crimean peninsula.

“In a few days, I will face trial,” the activist later wrote on X (formerly Twitter).

Related article: [Crimean Tatars Warned Against Protesting on Anniversary of Stalin-Era Deportations – Activists](#)

According to the Ukrainian news outlet Graty, Zudiyeva [faces](#) two misdemeanor charges for Facebook posts that contain content from Radio Free Europe/Radio Liberty (RFE/RL), which

was branded an “undesirable” organization earlier this week, as well as a post that refers to the banned Islamic group Hizb ut-Tahrir.

She could be fined up to 100,000 rubles (\$1,050) if found guilty of misusing media resources.

Crimean Solidarity said members of Russia’s anti-extremism task force searched Zudiyeva’s home and seized her and her children’s personal electronic devices.

Independent rights watchdog OVD-Info [reported](#) that the activist was released after questioning.

Crimean Tatars are a predominantly Muslim ethnic minority, among whom many opposed Russia’s 2014 annexation of the peninsula.

Russia has branded Crimean Tatars’ local self-governing body as an “extremist” organization.

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