

Russian Woman Who Filmed Troops Sentenced to 12 Years for Treason

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AP Photo/TASS

A woman from Russia's Far East has been sentenced to 12 years in prison for allegedly sharing footage of Russian troop movements with Ukraine, state media [reported](#) Wednesday, citing the local Federal Security Service (FSB) branch.

The woman, identified as Chita resident A.Yu. Sulimova, was [detained](#) at age 21 on treason charges last July. Authorities accused her of filming soldiers and military equipment heading from the Zabaikalsky region toward Ukraine and sending the footage to a Ukrainian border guard with whom she'd been in contact.

The Zabaikalsky District Court said in September that Sulimova had admitted her guilt, describing her as a "staunch opponent" of Russia's invasion of Ukraine who planned to flee to Ukraine upon receiving the needed funds from the Ukrainian border guard.

Related article: [Russia's 2023 Treason Cases Hit Record High – NGO](#)

On Wednesday, the court found Sulimova guilty of high treason and sentenced her to 12 years in a medium-security prison, the state-run TASS news agency cited the regional FSB branch as saying.

Treason cases are held behind closed doors in Russia as they involve information classified by the authorities.

Russian authorities [opened](#) a record number of treason cases in 2023, the second year of its war in Ukraine, according to the Perviy Otdel human rights project, which specializes in cases being investigated by the FSB.

That year, President Vladimir Putin signed a law raising the maximum penalty for “high treason” from 20 years to life imprisonment.

Last month, a young woman from Moscow [on trial](#) for pouring green dye into a ballot box during Russia's presidential election claimed she was instructed to do so by phone scammers posing as Central Bank and FSB employees. The scammers allegedly shouted “glory to Ukraine” into the phone as she was arrested.

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