

Russian Streaming Website Kinopoisk Fined \$110K for 'LGBT Propaganda'

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Evgenij Razumnyj / Vedomosti / TASS

A Moscow court fined the popular Russian movie streaming website Kinopoisk 10 million rubles (\$110,000) on Tuesday for charges related to "propaganda" of LGBTQ+ lifestyles and pedophilia.

The Tagansky District Court <u>imposed</u> a 3 million ruble (\$33,000) fine on Kinopoisk for "propaganda of non-traditional sexual relations and preferences, as well as sex changes." The same court <u>imposed</u> a separate fine of 7 million rubles (\$77,000) for "propaganda of pedophilia."

The court did not specify what content led to the fines, but last month, a different Moscow court <u>fined</u> Kinopoisk CEO Alexander Dunayevsky 800,000 rubles (\$8,800). According to media reports, the fine was <u>connected</u> to the streaming platform distributing the 2015 Gaspar Noe drama "Love," which features a young adolescent character in explicit scenes.

Russian media outlets and streaming platforms have been hit with <u>heavy fines</u> since President

Vladimir Putin <u>expanded</u> the country's "LGBT propaganda" law in late 2022 to include bans on any public displays of so-called "non-traditional" relationships and lifestyles.

Kinopoisk, a film database and streaming service owned by Russia's tech giant Yandex, attracts over 150 million monthly visitors.

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