The Moscow Times
30 YEARS
INDEPENDENT NEWS FROM RUSSIA

Life on the Margins

Russia Underground

May 21, 2025



Russia Underground takes you on a journey to meet the Russians who continue to battle for free speech, artistic freedoms and basic human rights despite Putin's brutal wartime crackdown.

Our first episode is an introduction to what it means to be "underground" in modern Russia, and the ways anti-war Russians can — and do — express their opposition.

We meet a documentary filmmaker who has been shooting the reality of wartime Russia, and attend a screening of one of her recent films in Moscow. And, in a city in the Ural Mountains, we speak to a political activist who has been questioned by police.

Finally, we attend an event in Moscow where people are writing letters to political prisoners — an important way of expressing support. The event organizer's own husband was in jail (for reading anti-war poems in public), and she talks about the experience of his arrest.

Original url: https://www.themoscowtimes.com/2025/05/21/life-on-the-margins-a89150