

Yekaterinburg Street Musician Detained After Performing in Support of Arrested Band

October 21, 2025



@ovdinfo

Police have detained a local street performer in the Russian city of Yekaterinburg after he played songs in support of an arrested St. Petersburg street band that went viral for anti-Kremlin performances, the rights group OVD-Info [reported](#) Tuesday.

Yevgeny Mikhailov, known by the stage name Zhenka Radost, was charged with petty hooliganism and held at a police station overnight, pending a court hearing.

The charges, which Mikhailov's lawyer [said](#) stem from swear words in one of the songs he performed, carry a maximum punishment of 15 days in administrative detention.

"I'm alive and well, the trial's tomorrow," Mikhailov, who has performed on the streets of Yekaterinburg for more than three years, [wrote](#) on his Telegram channel.

Mikhailov said he was motivated to be "braver and more open" after the [arrest](#) of the trio

Stoptime, whose members were last week sentenced to 12–13 days of administrative detention for blocking pedestrian access to a metro station while busking outdoors in St. Petersburg.

Lead singer Diana Loginova, who performs under the name Naoko, was also [charged](#) with “discrediting” the Russian military. The misdemeanor offense is punishable by a fine and can lead to criminal prosecution if repeated within a year.

Related article: [‘You’re Afraid of Poems and Love’: Singer Monetochka Pens Verse in Support of Jailed St. Petersburg Street Musicians](#)

Investigators reportedly [argued](#) that Loginova “discredited” the Russian military because Ukrainian citizens listen to the original song she covers during drone strikes on their homes.

Stoptime’s arrest followed a viral video showing the band performing a banned song that references both the Ozero dacha cooperative linked to President Vladimir Putin’s associates and the Swan Lake ballet, which came to symbolize the death of a Soviet leader.

Since the arrest, musicians and social media users across Russia [have begun](#) performing the songs covered by Stoptime and sharing videos under the hashtag that translates as “Free Naoko.” The movement’s emblem — an image of ballet dancers — has since appeared on leaflets and protest art in several cities.

Original url:

<https://www.themoscowtimes.com/2025/10/21/yekaterinburg-street-musician-detained-after-performing-in-support-of-arrested-band-a90887>