

PUTIN: STOP THE CRACKDOWN



In January a group of people gathered in St Petersburg to have a snowball fight. The police responded by banning it and dispersing the crowd – calling it an ‘unauthorised gathering’. This may seem a ridiculous one off event but it isn’t. **The space for freedom of assembly, association and expression is rapidly shrinking in Russia**

From excessive fines for “unauthorised” public gatherings to the law further stigmatising the LGBTI community, from the smear campaign against NGO’s – “foreign agents” – to broadened, vague definitions of treason and espionage, from re-criminalising libel, to criminal prosecution for “offending the feelings of believers”, these laws have a chilling effect on civil society and undermine the legitimate role of NGO’s in Russia.

Sign our petition and call on President Putin to end the attack on civil society.

I call on President Putin to repeal laws that:

- re-criminalise libel
- restrict public protests
- broaden the legal definition of “treason” and espionage
- oblige NGO’s to register as foreign agents
- make “propaganda of non-traditional sexual relations among minors” an offence
- criminalise insulting the religious feelings of believers

We believe that these laws are inconsistent with Russia’s international obligations and its own Constitution and must be repealed.

PLEASE USE CAPITALS

NAME	ADDRESS	POSTCODE	EMAIL/TELEPHONE	SIGNATURE*

*By giving us your details, you are requesting updates about Amnesty’s work and the work of Amnesty Groups in your area. If at any time you prefer not to receive updates, please tell us at www.amnesty.org.uk/contact

