

# Summary of Legislation Related to the Rights of LGBT, other MSM, and PLWH

## Russia



Legislative Aspect	Law	Practice
Travel and Immigration Bans on People Living with HIV (PLWH)	Russia imposes restrictions on PLWH who wish to immigrate to the country.	Anyone wishing to remain longer than 90 days in the country is required to obtain a certificate attesting that he or she is not infected with HIV. Failure to produce such a certificate may be grounds for deportation.
Criminalization of HIV Transmission	Transmission of HIV is criminalized.	Knowingly subjecting another person to the danger of HIV infection is punishable by imprisonment of up to 1 year; infection of another person with HIV by someone who knows they are infected is punishable by imprisonment of up to 5 years; HIV transmission resulting from professional negligence of medical professionals is punishable by imprisonment of up to 5 years.
Ban on Blood Donation by MSM	MSM are not prohibited from donating blood.	
Criminalization of Same-Sex Sexual Activity	Same-sex sexual activity is legal.	Same-sex sexual activity was decriminalized in 1993. Age of consent is 16 for both men and women.
Ban on "Homosexual Propaganda"	Russia has enacted laws banning the distribution of "homosexual propaganda" among minors at the federal and regional levels.	In 2013, the State Duma adopted a bill banning the distribution of propaganda promoting "non-traditional sexual relationships" among minors. The bill effectively makes it illegal to hold gay pride events or speak in favor of LGBT rights or gay relationships in front of minors.

Eurasian Coalition on Male Health



<b>Laws on Gender Identity and Expression (changing one's legal gender and related procedures)</b>	A person may change their legal gender according to existing legislation.	Changing one's legal gender is possible by providing a standardized form from a medical institution attesting to the need to change one's legal gender. However, the relevant authorities have not yet developed such a form. Thus, trans* people wishing to change their legal gender are often required to submit proof of having undergone surgical interventions, even though such interventions are not required under existing legislation. While gender reassignment procedures are available in the country, they are not covered by the national health insurance and are therefore unavailable to many trans* people due to the costs involved. Moreover, it is often left to the discretion of relevant officials to determine what documents a person must provide or whether it is necessary to undergo surgical or medical interventions.
<b>SOGI Antidiscrimination Laws</b>	There are no specific antidiscrimination protections for sexual minorities.	The Constitution of Russia affirms the equality of all citizens but does not expressly prohibit discrimination. Discrimination based on sexual orientation and gender identity is not explicitly prohibited by any law.
<b>Hate Crimes Legislation</b>	There is no comprehensive hate crimes legislation.	Aggravating criminal circumstances arise when a crime is committed on the basis of political, ideological, racial, ethnic, or religious hatred or hatred toward another social group. However, LGBT people have not been recognized as a "social group." Thus, no hate crimes committed on the basis of sexual orientation or gender identity have been prosecuted.
<b>Recognition of Same-Sex Partnerships</b>	There is no recognition of any kind of same-sex partnership or union.	Marriage is the only form of legal partnership and is only available to opposite-sex couples.
<b>Adoption</b>	There is no legal act allowing LGBT people to jointly adopt children.	Single parents are eligible to adopt children. Thus, it is still possible for LGBT people to adopt.



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