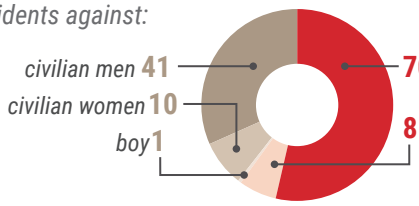
UKRAINE/RUSSIAN FEDERATION: Sexual violence, as a form of torture, perpetrated in detention by Russian authorities

Independent International Commission of Inquiry on Ukraine

June 2026

The Commission of Inquiry investigated incidents against:

130 individuals



- **Committed during detention in makeshift or established facilities**
- **Targeting mainly men**
- **Victims were between 17 and 58 years old**

Rape, also using objects

for instance, rubber batons, the handle of a shovel, a pen

Attacks on genital organs

emasculation, electric shocks, beatings, burns, traction of genital organs

Forced nudity while walking, running, jumping, lying, kneeling, squatting

including in freezing weather, with beatings or electric shocks

Invasive and humiliating body searches

Attempted rape and threats of sexual violence

- Acts often committed repeatedly
- By one or several perpetrators
- With the purpose of extracting information or confessions, forcing cooperation, punishing, intimidating, or humiliating

Sexual violence was perpetrated with other violations and crimes:

- **Targeting the victim:** wilful killing, torture, ill-treatment, deportation and transfer, forced labour, outrages upon personal dignity, unlawful confinement, inhuman conditions
  - *Acts of violence included:* shooting, beating, administering of electric shocks, burns, strangling, hanging by the arms
- **Targeting family members:** torture, unlawful confinement

Vulnerability of victims:

- Sexual violence has been systematically used as a form of torture against male detainees.
- Women in detention have been affected by restricted access to water, toilets, menstrual hygiene products, leading to infections and reproductive health issues.

> ***I will smash everything down there so you can't make children anymore."***
>
> *– Russian prison guard speaking to 48-year-old Ukrainian prisoner of war while administering beatings on genitals*

Locations of the investigated incidents

- **42 detention facilities in 9 regions of Ukraine that came under Russian occupation and in 11 regions of the Russian Federation**



> ***It was humiliating, I felt as if I was sexually assaulted. He was touching me not as he was checking me, but as if he enjoyed it."***
>
> *– 24-year-old Ukrainian prisoner of war describing body search by Russian special purpose unit (Spetsnaz) after he was ordered to fully undress*

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