

URGENT ACTION

TWO ACTIVISTS RELEASED FROM DETENTION

Russian activists Seroe Fioletovoe and Viktoriya Miroshnichenko were released unharmed after spending 15 days in detention in the pro-Russian separatist-controlled Donetsk, in Ukraine. The activists have now returned to Russia.

On 14 February, representatives of the self-proclaimed “Donetsk People’s Republic” (DNR) released activists **Seroe Fioletovoe** and **Viktoriya Miroshnichenko** from custody. The two activists went missing on 31 January immediately after crossing into the DNR-controlled territory, where they were intending to perform a public LGBT pacifist action.

On 13 February, it transpired that Seroe Fioletovoe and Viktoriya Miroshnichenko were in the custody of the “Ministry of State Security” in Donetsk and were repeatedly questioned by representative of the de facto authorities who suspected that Seroe Fioletovoe and Viktoriya Miroshnichenko were spies. In the evening of 14 February, they were escorted to the border with Russia and released. Since their release, Seroe Fioletovoe and Viktoriya Miroshnichenko have not complained of any ill-treatment in detention.

Thank you to all those who sent appeals. No further action is requested from the UA network.

This is the first update of UA 42/17. Further information: <https://www.amnesty.org/en/documents/eur50/5658/2017/en/>

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