

AMNESTY INTERNATIONAL PUBLIC STATEMENT

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Russian artists and activists campaign for the release of punk singers

Amnesty International expresses its solidarity with participants of one-person pickets in support of Pussy Riot which will take place in Moscow, in front of the Federal Penal Service on 8 March - the International Women's Day.

Participants of the pickets - well-known Russian artists, journalists, bloggers and civil society activists - will urge the Russian authorities to release Nadezhda Tolokonnikova and Maria Alekhina on parole.

Amnesty International considers the two Pussy Riot members to be prisoners of conscience detained solely for the peaceful expression of their beliefs. The organization reiterates its call on the Russian authorities to release Maria Alekhina and Nadezhda Tolokonnikova immediately and unconditionally and to overturn the sentence against them and Ekaterina Samutsevich.

The Moscow picket lines on 8 March are supported by the tens of thousands of Amnesty International members across the globe who have been campaigning for the immediate and unconditional release of the Pussy Riot singers.

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