RUSSIA: Are your #EyesOnChechnya?

AMNESTY INTERNATIONAL

Dear Mr. Aleksandr Ivanovich Bastrykin,

On April 1, 2017, Russian newspaper *Novaya Gazeta* reported that over a hundred men in Chechnya who are believed to be gay had been recently abducted, and some tortured, as part of a coordinated campaign. Following this report, *Novaya Gazeta* journalists received serious threats.

Everyone has a right to freedom of expression, and to live in safety and free from discrimination. As chair of the Investigation Committee of the Russian Federation I call on you to:

- Promptly, thoroughly and effectively investigate reports of abductions, torture, and killings of men believed to be gay in Chechnya, and threats against *Novaya Gazeta* journalists, and hold perpetrators to account;
- Condemn discriminatory and threatening comments made by officials in Chechnya;
- Ensure the safety of LGBTI individuals in Chechnya; and
- Uphold human rights obligations to prohibit discrimination, investigate and prosecute hate crimes, uphold the right to freedom of expression, and protect journalists.

Sincerely,

Please submit petition by end September 2017 to:
Amnesty International Canada
312 Laurier Avenue East
Ottawa, ON K1N 1H9
Contact: jhansen@amnesty.ca

I wish to receive email alerts and updates about Amnesty's human rights work (1-2 times per month)

Name (please print)	Address (include postal code)	Signature	Phone and Email