Anti-War Professor Arrested, Fined in Russia's Volgograd

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Roman Melnichenko. **semnasem.org**

A university professor fired for sharing anti-war videos has been arrested for disobeying police orders and fined under Russia's wartime censorship laws, local media in the city of Volgograd [reported](#) Thursday, citing anonymous law enforcement sources.

Roman Melnichenko, who previously taught constitutional and municipal law at Volgograd State University, was fired in April 2022 and subsequently [lost](#) lawsuits he filed over wrongful termination.

Local news outlet V1.ru reported that Melnichenko was approached by police in connection with a misdemeanor charge of "discrediting" the Russian army. He was then charged with disobeying police orders after refusing to provide identification.

During a 72-hour administrative detention, Melnichenko was [fined](#) 30,000 rubles ($331) by a court under Russia's wartime censorship laws.

Earlier this year, local state-run TV [reported](#) that Melnichenko laid flowers in honor of the late Kremlin critic Alexei Navalny during his funeral in Moscow earlier this year, identifying the academic by name, photo and workplace.

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