



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
January 25, 2023

**EVENT ON DISSENT AND PERSECUTION IN RUSSIA AT
THE REAGAN INSTITUTE:
Film Screening of Vladimir Kara-Murza's *My Duty to Not Stay Silent***

Reagan Institute and National Endowment for Democracy
Will Co-Host Screening Followed by Panel Discussion

WASHINGTON, DC – In partnership with the National Endowment for Democracy, the Ronald Reagan Institute's Center for Freedom and Democracy will host an event titled "Dissent and Persecution in Russia: From Father Edelstein to Vladimir Kara-Murza." The event will feature a screening of *My Duty to Not Stay Silent*, the newest documentary film by imprisoned Russian opposition leader Vladimir Kara-Murza, followed by a discussion on dissent and persecution in today's Russia.

The event will feature opening remarks from Vladimir's wife, Evgenia Kara-Murza. Following the film screening, National Endowment for Democracy's Damon Wilson will lead a moderated discussion with Free Russia Foundation's Natalia Arno, Victims of Communism Memorial Foundation's Andrew Bremberg, Free Europe/Radio Liberty's Jamie Fly, and Evgenia Kara-Murza.

The film, *My Duty to Not Stay Silent*, tells the story of Russian Orthodox priest and dissident Father Georgy Edelstein. After being suspended for "politically motivated dissent," Father Edelstein led efforts to keep freedom of religion alive in the Soviet Union. Following a personal petition from President Reagan in 1988, Father Edelstein was restored to his village parish.

What: **Dissent and Persecution in Russia: From Father Edelstein to Vladimir Kara-Murza**

Who: Evgenia Kara-Murza, Advocacy Coordinator at the Free Russia Foundation
Damon Wilson, President and CEO of the National Endowment for Democracy
Natalia Arno, President and Founder of the Free Russia Foundation
Ambassador Andrew Bremberg, President of the Victims of Communism Memorial Foundation
Jamie Fly, President and CEO of Radio Free Europe/Radio Liberty

When: 4:00pm ET, Wednesday, February 1, 2023

Where: Ronald Reagan Presidential Foundation and Institute
850 16th Street
Washington, DC 20006

Members of the media must RSVP via email [here](#) to attend the event in person. The event will also be live-streamed. If you are unable to join in person, you are welcome to participate virtually by registering [here](#).

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About the Reagan Foundation and Institute:

The Ronald Reagan Presidential Foundation and Institute is the nonprofit organization created by President Reagan himself and specifically charged by him with continuing his legacy and sharing his principles - individual liberty, economic opportunity, global democracy and national pride. The Foundation is a non-partisan organization which sustains the Ronald Reagan Presidential Library and Museum in Simi Valley, CA, the Reagan Center for Public Affairs, the Presidential Learning Center, The Air Force One Pavilion and the award-winning Discovery Center, as well as the Reagan Institute, which carries out the Foundation's work in Washington, D.C. The Reagan Library houses over 55 million pages of Gubernatorial, Presidential and personal papers and over 60,000 gifts and artifacts chronicling the lives of Ronald and Nancy Reagan. It also serves as the final resting place of America's 40th President and his First Lady. www.reaganfoundation.org