



CHALK ON CONCRETE

by Helene Vogel, Julia Vogel



SYNOPSIS

Since 2004, Russian law allows young men to choose: Instead of military service, they can apply for "Alternative Civilian Service". Applicants to the alternative service face a host of bureaucratic obstacles, as well as widespread prejudice and misinformation in Russian society. This is what drives Elena, a human rights activist of the 'Soldiers Mothers St. Petersburg'. Tirelessly she struggles with authorities, demonstrates in front of conscription offices, educates about the alternative service. Konstantin and Ivars are both fighting lengthy court battles in order to stay true to their pacifist beliefs. Anton was in the army. Like many, he thought it 'would make a man' of him. After six months of mistreatment by comrades and superiors, he decided to desert.

CAST AND CREW

DIRECTOR Helene Vogel, Julia Vogel

Germany 2014

85 min

ORIGINAL TITLE

KREIDE AUF BETON

FORMAL CATEGORIES

Conflicts, Human Rights, Politics

ORIGINAL LANGUAGES

Russian

PREMIERE

Germany (2014)

PRODUCTION COMPANY

[Filmuniversität Babelsberg](#)
[KONRAD WOLF - Distribution](#)

Marlene-Dietrich-Allee 11

14482 Potsdam

Germany

festivals@filmuniversitaet.de

<http://www.filmuniversitaet.de>