

Progress on Magnitsky Ban

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The Canadian parliament's international human rights subcommittee has unanimously approved a resolution calling on the country's government to introduce visa sanctions for Russian officials implicated in the death of Hermitage Capital lawyer Sergei Magnitsky and to freeze their assets, Interfax reported Wednesday.

The Canadian government has not commented on the resolution. The parliament decided to consider the ban after an bill blacklisting 60 Russian officials was introduced in the U.S. legislature. Britain and the European Parliament are considering similar bans.

Magnitsky died of health problems in pretrial detention in November 2009. His supporters say he was intentionally denied medical help by corrupt officials involved in a multimillion fraud he tried to expose.

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