

Kazakh Opposition Trial Set

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ALMATY, Kazakhstan — Supporters of Kazakhstan opposition leader Vladimir Kozlov said his trial on charges of seeking to overthrow the nation's government will begin this week.

Kozlov's wife, Aliya Turusbekova, said Saturday that she believed authorities would seek a quick trial over the August holiday period to minimize public scrutiny. She said the first hearing is scheduled for Thursday.

Kozlov's Alga party says the case is aimed at eliminating opposition to the former Soviet republic's authoritarian regime. It has expressed fears that if Kozlov is convicted on charges that include inciting social unrest and heading a criminal gang, he could face over a decade behind bars.

(AP)

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