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Moscow Court Issues Arrest Warrant for Browder

By The Moscow Times

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A Moscow court has issued an arrest warrant for British investor William Browder, who has led a global campaign to seek justice over the prison death of anti-corruption lawyer Sergei Magnitsky.

The court warrant, issued Monday by the Tverskoi District Court, looks to bring Browder, chief of investment firm Hermitage Capital Management, to trial on suspicion of illegal business with Gazprom shares.

Investigators intend to use the warrant to file an Interpol Red Notice to detain Browder, who denies any wrongdoing.

The Interior Ministry started the case against Browder shortly after U.S. Congress passed the Sergei Magnitsky Rule of Law Accountability Act late last year. The Magnitsky Act imposes visa bans and asset freezes on Russian officials involved in rights violations, including

Magnitsky's death in pretrial detention in 2009.

A Hermitage Capital representative commented on the warrant in a statement on Tuesday, saying: "We have no intention of being muzzled by a group of corrupt police officers."

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