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'Leviathan' Wins London Critics' Award for Best Foreign Film

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Director Andrey Zvyagintsev listens to a question of a journalist in Moscow.

Russian director Andrei Zvyagintsev's film "Leviathan" picked up yet another award Sunday night, this time for best foreign film at the London Critics' Circle film awards.

The controversial film, an off-beat depiction of a man's struggle with a corrupt local mayor, also placed sixth in the Circle's top 10 films of 2014, one week after its Golden Globe win and Oscar nomination for best foreign-language film.

Celebrated abroad but attacked by conservative critics at home, the film was recently accused of "openly spitting on" Russian authorities last week by Russian Culture Minister Vladimir Medinsky, who pledged in an interview with newspaper Izvestia that the ministry would not financially support similar projects in the future.

Russians will be able to judge the film for themselves when a profanity-free version hits local cinemas on Feb. 5, in compliance with new domestic legislation prohibiting expletives in the arts.

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