The Moscow Times
30 YEARS
INDEPENDENT NEWS FROM RUSSIA

Explosion Tears Through Building in Ukraine's Odessa

February 11, 2015



A building damaged by an explosion in Odessa.

An explosion has ripped through a building housing a law office and a hostel in Ukraine's Black Sea port of Odessa, news reports said, in the latest of a series of blasts to rattle the city.

No injuries were reported in the explosion that occurred on one of the middle floors of a building on Koblevskaya Street late Tuesday night, Ukraine's Novoye Vremya reported.

Ukraine'sTSN reported that an apparent explosive device had been planted at the entrance to a hostel located on the third floor of the building and that the blast ripped a two-story-high hole through a stairwell and smashed windows.

The building also housed a law office, Novoye Vremya said.

Odessa, a Black Sea port city with a substantial Russian-speaking population, was the site of deadly clashes between pro-Moscow and pro-European activists last May. More than 40 people were killed during the violence, most of whom were caught in a building that was set

on fire

The city has been mostly peaceful since then, but has seen a series of explosions in recent months — a number of them apparently targeting pro-Kiev organizations in Odessa, according to media reports.

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