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Russian Blogger Nosik Faces 2-Year Sentence for Syria Post

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Anton Nosik **Artyom Korotayev / TASS**

Prosecutors have asked a Moscow court⊠to jail Russian blogger Anton Nosik for two years after he wrote a⊠post calling for the Kremlin to "erase Syria from the face of the⊠earth."

Nosik was charged with with inciting hatred or⊠hostility after a criminal investigation was launched in⊠November last year. Two years is the maximum sentence for the offense.

The blog post called⊠for Russian forces to carpet bomb the country and justified the death⊠of civilians. "I will not grieve if Syria is razed to the ground.⊠Moreover, I will be thankful," Nosik wrote.

He⊠was also investigated for comments he made on the Echo Moskvy radio⊠station.

Nosik⊠has

pleaded not guilty, but told reporters that some of his comments made to Echo Moskvy may have "overstepped the mark."

The blogger had previously announced his intention to run in this month's State Duma elections.

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