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Russian Opposition Politician Targeted With Grenade Trap

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An opposition politician and journalist in central Russia has escaped unharmed after an unknown attacker set a live grenade to explode outside his home.

Agzam Sharafiev, editor of local newspaper Yegorshiskie Vesti and a member of the Sverdlovsk regional parliament, found the grenade placed inside a glass container close to his apartment in the town of Artemovsky.

Police believe that if the glass had been dropped and shattered, the grenade would have exploded on impact.

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Sharafiev believes that the attack was linked to his political or journalistic work, activist organization Open Russia reported Thursday.

“Our newspaper is often hard-hitting and we receive threats constantly,” he said. “Now I'm more inclined to believe that we are talking about politics. A list of potential suspects are known both to myself and to the police — local businessmen and former local politicians — but I'm not ready to name them publicly.”

Local police confirmed that an investigation was already underway.

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