

Russian Politician Suffers Heart Attack After Police Saw Through His Front Door

April 13, 2017



Vyacheslav Maltsev after suffering a heart attack in Saratov. **Dmitry Demushkin / Facebook**

Opposition politician Vyacheslav Maltsev reportedly suffered a heart attack on Thursday, after police sawed through his apartment door in Saratov and arrested him in front of his family.

Maltsev, who live-streamed the incident from his phone, was a State Duma candidate in Russia's parliamentary elections last year, running on the ticket of the liberal opposition party PARNAS.

Embed:

The 52-year-old suffered a heart attack while police escorted him from his home to the Saratov airport, where he was supposed to board a plane for Moscow, where he'd be interrogated, according to the website [Meduza](#). He eventually boarded the plane on a

stretcher.

Officials haven't yet announced any formal charges, though Maltsev is reportedly suspected of attacking a state employee during an anti-corruption demonstration in Moscow on March 26, [the news agency TASS](#) reported.

On Thursday, police also raided the home of activist Sergei Okunev, who collaborates with Maltsev on the anti-Kremlin vlog "Artodgotovka," according to [the news agency RBC](#).

Artodgotovka, which often rails against President Putin and the Russian government, has at times broadcast racist, populist, and anti-Semitic content, critics say.

Related article: [Russian Opposition Leader Navalny Calls for New Anti-Corruption Rallies](#)

Police also arrested Yury Gorsky and Ivan Beletsky, two of Maltsev's associates, [RIA Novosti reported](#). Both men co-organize the ultra-nationalist "Russky Marsh" movement, which campaigns for "Russian unity" and the "rights of the oppressed Russian nation."

Original url:

<https://www.themoscowtimes.com/2017/04/13/opposition-activists-arrested-after-russias-anti-corruption-rallies-a57719>