

Improvised Bomb Explodes in St. Petersburg Supermarket, Injuring 13

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Alexander Demianchuk / TASS

A bomb exploded at a supermarket in St. Petersburg on Wednesday evening, injuring at least 13 people.

The explosion happened at around 6:45 p.m. at the busy Perekryostok supermarket on Kalinin Ploshchad. The suspect was reportedly <u>caught</u> on videotape as he left a knapsack at the coat check, the Fontanka news website reported, saying that he appeared to be of "non-Slavic appearance."

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"An improvised explosive device equivalent to 200 grams of TNT was set off at a shopping complex in St. Petersburg. It was packed with submunitions," a spokesperson from Russia's Investigative Committee was <u>cited</u> as saying by the Interfax news agency.

Earlier this month, security forces<u>arrested</u> seven suspected members of an Islamic State (IS) sleeper cell in St. Petersburg who were reportedly preparing a suicide bombing at the city's Kazansky Cathedral.

In April, a suicide bomber<u>detonated</u> an improvised explosive in a St. Petersburg metro car, killing 15 and injuring dozens.

The investigation of Wednesday's bombing is being coordinated by the National Anti-Terror Committee, Fontanka <u>reports</u>.

On Thursday morning, President Vladimir Putin called the bombing a "terrorist attack."

IS is a terrorist organization banned in Russia.

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