

Russian Sports Minister Calls Oscar-Winning Icarus Documentary a 'Fantasy Film'

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Dan Cogan and Bryan Fogel pose with their Oscars after winning Best Documentary for "Icarus" **Mike Blake / Reuters**

Russian Sports Minister Pavel Kolobkov has said that director Bryan Fogel's documentary on doping in Russian sports had been awarded an Oscar in the wrong category.

Fogel's "Icarus" [chronicles](#) the director's accidental entanglement in the Olympic doping saga after meeting former Moscow anti-doping lab head Grigory Rodchenkov. Rodchenkov fled to the U.S. after uncovering evidence of a Russian state-run doping scheme, a claim that Moscow denies.

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“Icarus” [nabbed](#) the Academy Award for Best Documentary Feature at the Oscar awards ceremony on Sunday.

“The film ‘Icarus’ was given an Oscar in the wrong category,” the RBC business portal [cited](#) Russian Sports Minister Pavel Kolobkov as saying Tuesday.

“It’s a good fantasy film and maybe deserves an award, but not as a documentary,” Kolobkov added, saying that it was “a shame that such a respected organization as the American film academy mixed up the genres.

Fogel had [dedicated](#) the film's Oscar to Rodchenkov, “the fearless whistleblower who now lives in grave danger” and is [wanted](#) in Russia on drug-trafficking charges.

“We hope ‘Icarus’ is a wakeup call. Yes, about Russia, but more than that about the importance of telling the truth,” he said in his acceptance speech on Sunday.

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