

## Russia Opens Terror Probe Into U.S. Journalist's Call for Airstrikes on Crimea Bridge

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Russia's Investigative Committee has launched a criminal case against an American journalist who wrote an editorial calling on Ukraine to bomb Russia's newly-opened bridge to the annexed Crimean peninsula.

Tom Rogan <u>urged</u> the Ukrainian government to "launch air strikes" and "destroy elements" of the bridge to Crimea in a Washington Examiner magazine op-ed published on Tuesday. Kiev, the United States and the European Union criticized the opening of the road-and-rail bridge and called it a violation of Ukraine's territorial integrity.

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"The investigation has detected signs of public incitement to terrorist activity in the territory

of the Russian Federation," the Investigative Committee <u>said</u> in an online statement on Thursday in reference to Tom Rogan's article.

The publication's editor will also be subject to a "pre-investigation probe" for publishing Rogan's commentary, an Investigative Committee spokesperson said.

Earlier, the Russian Embassy in the U.S. <u>said</u> the piece was "outside the boundaries of journalist ethics," while the Kremlin's spokesperson called on law enforcement agencies to investigate the article, the RBC business portal <u>reported</u>.

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