

Russian Investigators Launch Probe Into Gruesome Jail Torture Video

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Novaya Gazeta / Youtube

A recently published video of prison guards torturing a detainee has spurred Russian authorities to launch an investigation into abuse, in a case that had previously been ignored by regional officials.

On Friday, the Novaya Gazeta newspaper [published](#) body cam footage of the alleged torture of Yevgeny Makarov, the detainee in the video, in Yaroslavl, showing men in correctional uniforms and plain clothes beating and waterboarding a prisoner for at least 10 minutes.

Related article: [Former Russian Prison Official Put Behind Bars for Torture](#)

After the video's publication, Russia's Investigative Committee said it had [opened](#) a case investigating the guards for violent abuse of power, a criminal offense that carries a maximum sentence of 10 years.

Regional investigators [declined](#) to open proceedings into the beating last year despite two [interventions](#) by the European Court of Human Rights, according to an [analysis](#) of the case by Public Verdict, a human rights group that offers legal assistance to victims of law enforcement abuse in Russia.

“He’s like Thor,” a voice is heard [saying](#) in the video, as one of the men repeatedly punches the prisoner’s soles while at least four uniformed officers hold him down.

Meanwhile, the regional Federal Prison Service allegedly [met to discuss](#) how the video was leaked, according to the Mash Telegram channel.

Original url:

<https://www.themoscowtimes.com/2018/07/20/russian-investigators-launch-probe-into-gruesome-jail-torture-video-a62314>