

Igor Malashenko, Co-Founder of Russia's NTV, Reported Dead in Spain

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Stanislav Krasilnikov / TASS

The renowned Russian media executive and political consultant Igor Malashenko has died in Spain at the age of 64, the Kommersant business daily <u>reported</u> on Monday.

Some Russian media reported the death as having been a suicide, citing sources close to Malashenko. No official sources have yet confirmed the reports.

Malashenko was the co-founder and president of NTV, an independent television channel founded by a group of leading journalists, before joining Boris Yeltsin's campaign team to engineer his presidential victory in 1996. He went on to lead a number of Russian media projects, including the RTVI online television channel and, more recently in 2018, he headed Ksenia Sobchak's presidential campaign.

Related article: Sobchak Campaign Teams Up With Igor Malashenko, Who Once Helped Yeltsin

"Igor Malashenko has killed himself. I can't pull myself together," Sobchak was cited as writing on her Telegram channel Monday by the Vedomosti business daily.

"I'm grateful to him for our joint work on the presidential campaign. I saw him as a very proper and creative person. I'm proud he headed my campaign," she added.

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