

Russian Journalist Alleges Torture After Filming Anti-War Rally

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Journalist and documentary filmmaker Sergei Erzhenkov. **Sergey Erzhenkov / facebook**

A Russian journalist has accused the security services of torturing him after he was detained for filming an anti-war rally in March.

Documentary maker Sergei Erzhenkov attended a March 4 anti-war rally in the city of Kasimov in western Russia, where he filmed activists spray-painting “Putin — go away” on a Lenin statue. The next day, Federal Security Service (FSB) officers came to Erzhenkov’s home and took him to the local police station.

Erzhenkov [told](#) YouTube channel Khodorkovsky Live that he was repeatedly beaten by FSB officers over the two days he spent in custody.

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“My wrists still stiffen up sometimes,” Erzhenkov said in the interview.

“Not only was I handcuffed, [the officers] bound me with duct tape, and I spent about five hours like this.”

Erzhenkov said he filed a complaint with law enforcement but has received no response.

Pro-Kremlin Telegram channels reported that a vandalism case has been opened against Erzhenkov.

If found guilty, he faces up to three years in prison.

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