

Russian Anti-War Sociologist Fined for ‘Justifying Terror’

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Boris Kagarlitsky seen at Tuesday's court hearing. **Natalya Kazakovtseva / TASS**

Anti-war sociologist and Marxist theorist Boris Kagarlitsky has been fined 600,000 rubles (\$6,600) for “justifying terrorism” in comments he made about Moscow’s invasion of Ukraine, independent media [reported](#) Tuesday.

Kagarlitsky, founder and chief editor of the left-wing news organization Rabkor, was [detained](#) in July in connection with a since-deleted YouTube [video](#) about the 2022 Crimea bridge explosion.

The sociologist denied the charges of “justifying terrorism” against him.

A Moscow military court — which heard the case at the Supreme Court of northwestern Russia’s republic of Komi — found Kagarlitsky guilty, Rabkor reported.

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The court ordered Kagarlitsky to pay 600,000 rubles (\$6,600) in damages and released him from detention.

Prosecutors had [requested](#) a five-and-a-half-year prison sentence for Kagarlitsky earlier Tuesday.

The maximum punishment under Russia's laws on "justifying terrorism" is seven years in prison.

Kagarlitsky has been a vocal critic of Moscow's invasion of Ukraine, but he has remained in Russia despite the Kremlin's sweeping crackdown on anti-war activism.

He serves as director of the Institute of Globalization and Social Movements, which Russia's Justice Ministry labeled a "foreign agent" in 2018.

Kagarlitsky himself was designated a "foreign agent" in May 2022.

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