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Jailed Opposition Activist Kara-Murza Placed in Solitary Confinement Cell

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The IK-7 penal colony in Russia's Omsk region. **fsin-mag.ru**

Jailed Russian opposition activist Vladimir Kara-Murza, who is serving a 25-year sentence for treason and "fake news" about the war in Ukraine, has been transferred to a new penal colony and placed in a solitary confinement cell, the independent news outlet Novaya Gazeta reported Tuesday, citing his lawyer.

The news comes just a day after Kara-Murza's family said he had been moved from the IK-6 maximum-security penal colony in the Omsk region, some 2,700 kilometers east of Moscow, and sent to an "unknown" location.

"On Friday, without any warning, I was called to the 'commission' for another 'malicious violation' when I did not get up at the command 'rise,'" the jailed activist was quoted as having written to his lawyer.

"They decided to transfer me to [a solitary confinement cell], 'so that life doesn't seem all sunshine and roses,'" he added.

Embed:

> Vladimir Kara-Murza has turned up
>
> His lawyer got a letter saying he's been moved to a prison in Omsk (IK-7) with tougher conditions, supposedly for 'malicious violation' of prison rules (not getting up on command, when the command wasn't given)
>
> His letter is as chirpy as ever pic.twitter.com/HX9b2wT8gc
>
> — Sarah Rainsford (@sarahrainsford) January 30, 2024

According to Kara-Murza's lawyer, he will remain in the solitary confinement cell at the new IK-7 penal colony in the Omsk region until May 26, but noted that "this date could be changed."

The independent Meduza news website described the type of confinement cell the activist was placed in as the "most severe form of punishment" available at a Russian prison.

Kara-Murza, 42, was arrested in April 2022 after he criticized the Kremlin's invasion of Ukraine.

Related article: Jailed Opposition Activist Kara-Murza Transferred to 'Unknown' Location

In April of last year, he was sentenced to 25 years in prison on charges of treason, "false information about the Russian army" and affiliation with an "undesirable" organization.

His prison sentence is one of the longest to be handed down against an opposition figure in recent years.

His lawyers and family have said his health has deteriorated in prison as he suffers from a nerve condition called polyneuropathy due to two near-fatal poisoning attempts in 2015 and 2017.

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