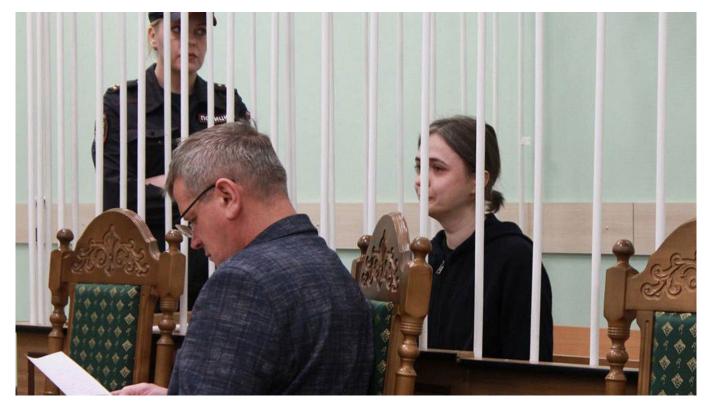


## Wife of Exiled Russian Journalist Martynov Jailed 9 Years for Attempted Murder

May 07, 2024



Antonina Martynova seen in court on Tuesday. SOTAvision

A Russian court has sentenced the wife of exiled journalist Kirill Martynov to nine years in prison for the attempted murder of her daughter almost two decades ago, Russian media <u>reported</u> Tuesday.

Antonina Martynova, whose maiden name is Fyodorova, had evaded criminal punishment for 16 years after a Russian jury in 2008 found her guilty of attempting to throw her toddler-aged daughter down a stairwell. She was found and detained by police on April 3.

Martynova has maintained that her daughter Alisa climbed through a stair railing and fell before she was able to catch her.

The Novgorod Regional Court in northwestern Russia found Martynova guilty and handed her a nine-year prison sentence, according to the Telegram news channel Ostorozhno

Novosti. Prosecutors last week<u>requested</u> to sentence Martynova to 10 years in mediumsecurity prison.

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Martynova denied the accusations against her and asked the court not to separate her from her 19-year-old daughter. Alisa told the judge that the 2007 incident was an "accident" and asked him to acquit her mother.

Martynova's husband Kirill Martynov, who is the editor-in-chief of the exiled independent newspaper Novaya Gazeta Europe, has not commented on the case. According to Meduza, Martynov is still legally <u>married</u> to Martynova.

Russian authorities have labeled Martynov a "foreign agent" and Novaya Gazeta Europe an "undesirable" organization.

Russian state media<u>reported</u> last year that police renewed an investigation into Martynov on suspicion of coaxing his wife to "get rid of" Alisa, who is her daughter from a previous marriage.

The only witness in that case, who was 11 years old at the time, died from a drug overdose, according to the state-funded broadcaster NTV.

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