

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

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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 [reported](#) 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 [requested](#) to sentence Martynova to 10 years in medium-security prison.

Related article: [Russia Seeks 10-Year Jail Term for Wife of Exiled Journalist in Attempted Murder Case](#)

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 [married](#) to Martynova.

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

Russian state media [reported](#) 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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