

Kadyrov Ally Steps Down as Chechen Parliament Speaker

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Magomed Daudov. **Yelena Afonina / TASS**

Chechen leader Ramzan Kadyrov's close ally Magomed Daudov announced Tuesday that he is stepping down as speaker of the North Caucasus republic's legislative assembly, a post he held for nearly nine years.

"After consulting with the head of the republic of Chechnya Ramzan Kadyrov, I decided to resign as Speaker of the Chechen Parliament," Daudov [told](#) regional lawmakers. He did not provide further details about his resignation.

Daudov's abrupt departure follows media reports [claiming](#) that Kadyrov has been living with a potentially fatal illness for more than five years. It also comes amid an ongoing shakeup in the Russian government as President Vladimir Putin assumes his fifth term in office.

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Considered Kadyrov's right-hand man, Daudov fought on the side of rebels during both Chechen wars but later switched sides after then-leader Akhmat Kadyrov promised to pardon separatist fighters.

Last month, Kadyrov promoted Daudov to the rank of major-general. The former speaker received the Hero of Russia award in 2007.

Human Rights Watch [has accused](#) Daudov of personally overseeing the torture of young men during the high-profile "gay purges" in Chechnya reported in early 2017. The United Kingdom [imposed](#) a travel ban and asset freeze against him in 2020 for human rights violations.

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