Police Launch Probe After Russian Lawmaker Attacked

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Mikhail Matveev. **t.me/matveevkomment**

Russian investigators said Friday that they have launched a criminal probe into "attempted murder" following an assault on a federal lawmaker.

Mikhail Matveyev, a Communist Party member of Russia's lower-house State Duma, said Thursday he had been attacked by "migrants" while attempting to stop them from harassing a passerby in the southern city of Samara.

"There's migrant mayhem on the streets," Matveyev, with his head bandaged, said in a video published on his personal Telegram channel.

Russia's Investigative Committee, which probes major crimes, initially announced a criminal probe on hooliganism charges. But on Friday, its chief Alexander Bastrykin ordered regional investigators to reclassify the attack as "attempted murder" due to the "circumstances of the incident and a public outcry."

Three people have been placed under arrest, the Investigative Committee said.

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Matveyev, 56, published a series of videos in the aftermath of his attack, including a doctor [placing stitches](#) on his injured head.

He claimed the assailants were of Tajik, Uzbek and Russian ethnicity and had allegedly assaulted up to five people before he intervened.

Matveyev is known to have [co-authored](#) several bills aiming to curb migration in Russia.

Following Thursday's incident, the Investigative Committee [said](#) it has recommended that the Duma adopt new legislation that tightens control over undocumented migrants and naturalized citizens who commit crimes or evade military service.

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