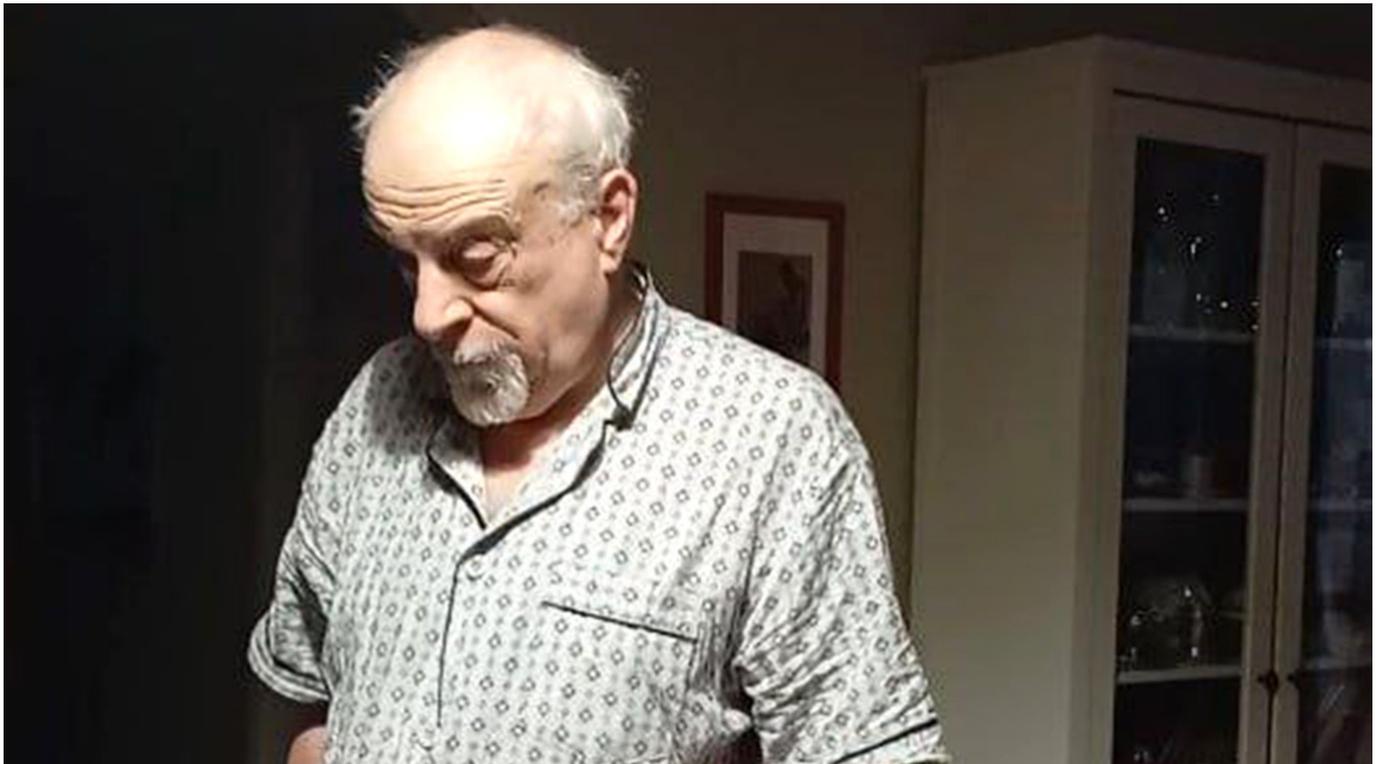


FSB Agents Search Home of Exiled Navalny Ally's Elderly Father

April 03, 2025



Mikhail Volkov. [@urallive](#)

Leonid Volkov, a close ally of late opposition activist Alexei Navalny, [said](#) Federal Security Service (FSB) agents searched the home of his elderly father in the Ural Mountains city of Yekaterinburg early Thursday.

The state-run news agency TASS, citing anonymous police sources, [reported](#) that 69-year-old Mikhail Volkov could face criminal charges of financing an “extremist” organization.

Volkov senior allegedly transferred money to Navalny’s Anti-Corruption Foundation, according to the sources. Russian authorities labeled the activist organization “extremist” in 2021, putting employees, volunteers and supporters at risk of criminal prosecution.

A Telegram news channel with connections to the Russian government [posted](#) a short video showing FSB agents handing the 69-year-old documents, though it was not immediately clear what kind of documents. The channel claimed that he was placed under arrest.

Related article: [Man Accused of Organizing Attack on Navalny Ally Volkov Arrested in Poland](#)

Volkov denied reports that his father was arrested on Thursday. He said that law enforcement officials had only searched his father's home and confiscated electronic devices as part of an investigation.

The exiled activist said it was still unclear whether his father, a retired math professor, was being charged with any crimes.

However, if confirmed, Volkov senior's arrest would mark the [first instance](#) of Russian authorities using anti-extremism laws to persecute the relatives of Navalny allies, according to the investigative news website Agentstvo.

Volkov, 44, has lived outside Russia since the 2021 "extremist" designation of Navalny's Anti-Corruption Foundation. In March 2024, he was briefly hospitalized after being attacked with a hammer outside his home in Lithuania.

Original url:

<https://www.themoscowtimes.com/2025/04/03/fsb-agents-search-home-of-exiled-navalny-allys-elderly-father-a88589>