

Russian-Installed Official Killed in Occupied Ukraine

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Vladimir Leontyev **Social Media**

A Kremlin-installed official was killed by a Ukrainian drone strike in southern Ukraine's frontline Kherson region, pro-Russian authorities [said](#) Wednesday.

Vladimir Leontyev, 61, started collaborating with Russian forces and was appointed mayor of the town of Nova Kakhovka soon after it was captured in April 2022. That month, Ukraine [charged](#) Leontyev with collaborating with the aggressor state.

Leontyev was hospitalized in grave condition after an early-morning Ukrainian drone strike, the Moscow-backed head of the Kherson region, Vladimir Saldo, [wrote](#) on Telegram.

State media shared surveillance camera video claiming to [show](#) the moment a powerful explosion injured Leontyev as he was entering a building. It claimed two other civilians were [wounded](#) in the blast.

Saldo said an hour later that Leontyev succumbed to his wounds.

“A true patriot who loved Russia and the Kherson region dearly fell victim to a cruel attack by the enemy at his combat post,” Saldo wrote. “He was one of the earliest supporters of [the pro-Putin ruling party] United Russia.”

In June 2023, Leontyev [accused](#) Ukraine of attempting to kill him with a Western-supplied missile strike.

Nova Kakhovka is a town under Russia's control on the eastern bank of the Dnieper River.

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