

Lithuania Jails Ukrainian for Carrying Out Arson Attack Blamed on Russia

By AFP

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Danylo Bardadym. Elta / Ukrinform.ru

A court in Lithuania on Monday sentenced a young Ukrainian man to three years and four months in prison for setting fire to an IKEA store in Vilnius last year.

Danylo Bardadym was said to have placed a bomb inside the IKEA store in May 2024, which exploded during the night, causing a fire that was quickly extinguished. No one was killed or injured in the attack.

A judge in Vilnius said Bardadym, a Ukrainian citizen, committed "an act of terrorism" in Vilnius and also "an attempted terrorist attack" in the northern city of Siauliai, which is home to a NATO airbase.

Prosecutors said Bardadym had acted "in the interest of a foreign military intelligence service" and that Russia had been "aware" of his plans.

Bardadym, who was 17 at the time, was allegedly promised a car and 10,000 euros (\$11,500) for his actions, they added.

He was also convicted of "training for terrorist purposes," travelling to Riga in neighboring Latvia "for terrorist purposes and possession of explosives," the judge added.

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