

31
Dec 2017

▲ Lvl. 1

No state
reply yet

Russian Federation

Alert created on: 31 Dec 2017

Journalist Shot in Southern Russia

SOURCE OF THREAT ▶ Unknown

CATEGORY  ▶ Attacks on physical safety and integrity of journalists

NO STATE REPLY YET

PARTNER: CPJ

On 21 December 2017, Vyacheslav Prudnikov, who contributes to the independent regional news website Kavkazsky Uzel from the town of Krasny Sulin in Russia's southern Rostov region, was shot with a weapon during a meeting with a local official, media reported.


Prudnikov told the local news website Don News that he had been meeting a municipal official, who the journalist referred to as Dmitry N. per the official's request, when a vehicle stopped nearby. A man got out of the vehicle and opened fire on him, yelling, "You criticize local authorities too much, we'll kill you," Prudnikov told Don News from a local hospital where he was receiving treatment. The journalist said the shooter and Dmitry N. "disappeared" when another car passed the scene.

Prudnikov told Don News he did not recognize the shooter.

Prudnikov has covered social and human rights issues in Krasny Sulin and nearby districts for Kavkazsky Uzel and other local outlets. His recent reports focused on miners' protests against alleged mismanagement by municipal authorities.

According to Don News, Prudnikov was wounded in the elbow when he covered his head during the shooting. Doctors found an additional bullet in his body, and performed surgery to remove it, the site reported without specifying where this bullet was located.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

 Report published by CPJ: "Local journalist shot in southern Russia"

FOLLOW-UPS

OSCE 31 Dec 2017 | OSCE Media Freedom Representative condemns attack on journalist in Russia, calls for speedy and effective investigation.

 **Statement by Harlem Désir**