

15
Apr 2019

▲ Lvl. 1

No state
reply yet

Russian Federation

Alert created on: 15 Apr 2019

Blood Feud Declared By Official Against Blogger Tumso Abdurakhmanov

SOURCE OF THREAT ▶ State

CATEGORY  ▶ Harassment and intimidation of journalists

NO STATE REPLY YET

PARTNER: RPT

A popular Russian blogger, Tumso Abdurakhmanov, was called “an enemy to me and my brothers” by the Speaker of Chechen parliament, Magomed Daudov. Daudov, a close ally of the Chechen leader Ramzan Kadyrov, declared a blood feud against Abdurakhmanov after the blogger published a video on his popular YouTube channel, calling Akhmat Kadyrov “a traitor” of the Chechen people. Abdurakhmanov believes that the blood feud declared against him is nothing less than a death threat. On 12 March, in his Instagram Live broadcast, Daudov vowed to track down Abdurakhmanov and retaliate, using the Chechen term for “blood feud.” Daudov’s recording was translated into Russian and reported on the same day by several Russian news outlets. Abdurakhmanov fled Chechnya in 2015 after the Chechen authorities accused Abdurakhmanov of having links with the “Islamic State” (IS), banned in Russia by the court. A criminal case was initiated against him under the article of “participation in illegal armed formations (IAFs) outside the country”. Abdurakhmanov is presently in hiding in Poland facing deportation. Despite strong opposition from human rights activists, Abdurakhmanov's first asylum application was rejected. He's currently awaiting the decision on his second application. Kremlin's spokesman Dmitry Peskov said he was unaware of the threat made by Daudov and that there is “no such thing” as blood feuds in Russian law.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

-  Article by Caucasian Knot: "Tumso Abdurakhmanov"
-  Article by RIA Novosti: "The Kremlin responded to the declaration of blood feud by the Speaker of Chechen Parliament" (in Russian)
-  Article published by AI: "Amnesty International calls on Poland not to deport Chechen"

- ➔ Article by AP: "Top Chechen official claims blood feud against blogger"
- ➔ Article by Open Democracy: "I'd prefer to die in Poland": Chechnya's most famous YouTuber in exile faces deportation to Russia"
- ➔ Article by RFE/RL: "Chechen Blogger Says He's Taking 'Blood Feud' Threat Seriously"