

Russian Man Jailed 25 Years Over Attempted Military Office Arson

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Ilya Baburin. [solidarity.zone](#)

A Russian court has sentenced a software engineer from the Siberian city of Novosibirsk to 25 years in prison for trying to set fire to a military recruitment office, state media [reported](#) Monday.

Ilya Baburin was detained in September 2022 and charged with terrorism after he set fire to a music school and then was allegedly preparing to burn down a local military recruitment office. Investigators accused him of taking orders from Ukraine's Azov Regiment.

Months after his detention, authorities [pressed](#) additional treason and terrorism-related charges against Baburin.

The Second Eastern Military Garrison Court found him guilty and ruled to “partly add up” his prison sentence to 25 years, the state-run TASS news agency reported Monday.

Prosecutors had requested a [record-setting](#) 26 years in prison for Baburin.

In his closing remarks last week, Baburin [denounced](#) the case against him as “absurd” and argued that he should have been tried for hooliganism instead of terrorism and treason.

Baburin accused law enforcement authorities of [physically abusing](#) him while in pre-trial detention. He had initially [signed](#) a plea deal but later turned it down and denied the charges.

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