PUBLIC STATEMENT

LATEST DEVELOPMENT
February 14, 2026

Russia must allow an independent investigation into Alexei Navalny's death

Amnesty Freedom calls for an independent investigation into the death of Russian opposition figure Alexei Navalny in custody in February 2024.

What we know

On February 14, 2026, the governments of the United Kingdom, Sweden, France, Germany, and the Netherlands reported that laboratory analyses had identified epibatidine in samples from Alexei Navalny and concluded that Russia was responsible for poisoning him. Russia rejected the allegation. The 2026 assessment concerns his death in custody in February 2024. A separate OPCW record concerns his poisoning in 2020. [1–5]

Our position

A death in custody demands a prompt, impartial, and transparent investigation, and the state that holds a person bears responsibility for their life. His family is entitled to the truth. Russia is a state party to the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights. [6–7]

Our calls

Amnesty Freedom calls on the authorities to:

1. Preserve and disclose relevant detention and medical records.
2. Permit independent investigators to access evidence and witnesses.
3. Give Navalny's family meaningful access to the process.
4. Ensure that all governments holding relevant samples or records cooperate with a credible inquiry that follows international standards, including the Minnesota Protocol.

Supporting information

1. Joint Statement by the UK, Sweden, France, Germany and The Netherlands on Alexei Navalny's death - GOV.UK
2. Russia poisoned Alexei Navalny with dart frog toxin, European nations say
3. OPCW, joint communication regarding the death of Alexei Navalny
4. Case of Mr Alexei Navalny | OPCW
5. European Court of Human Rights, Navalnyy v. Russia (No. 3)
6. OHCHR, Minnesota Protocol on the Investigation of Potentially Unlawful Death
7. United Nations, Nelson Mandela Rules on the treatment of prisoners

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Note to editors: *This statement is based on the public sources listed above. The date shown is that of the most recent development recorded in those sources; later developments may not be reflected.*