

I am writing to express my grave concern for Grigory Shvedov, a co-founder and the editor-in-chief of Caucasian Knot. On 6 January, the speaker of the Chechen parliament, Magomed Daudov, has posted an Instagram message, which is clearly understood to be a threat targeted against Grigory Shvedov.

I urge you to conduct a prompt, effective and impartial investigation into the threats made to Grigory Shvedov, which is a crime under Article 144 of the Criminal Code of the Russian Federation (“obstruction of lawful professional activities of journalists”).

I also urge you to condemn in the strongest manner the threats posted by Magomed Daudov and ensure that Grigory Shvedov is protected from any possible physical attacks.

I would like to remind you that as a party to the European Convention on Human Rights the Russian authorities have an obligation to guarantee freedom of expression and protect journalists from threats and attacks.

Your attention on this matter would be highly appreciated.

Sincerely,