

On the death of Alexei Navalny

After Russian Tsar *Nicholas I.* sentenced *Fyodor Dostoevsky* to death in 1849 for participating in revolutionary circles, he had him pardoned the moment after he and others had entered the place of execution, the verdicts had been read out and just as the drum roll began before the fatal shots. Instead, *Dostoevsky* was sent to a Siberian prison camp for five years, which he survived, albeit suffering from epilepsy.

Vladimir Putin, who aspires to go down in history as the new "tsar", is even more devious and cruel than *Nicholas I.*

When a poison attack on *Alexei Navalny*, most probably commissioned by *Putin*, failed and he bravely returned to Russia, *Putin* let him – who vehemently opposed *Putin*'s unjust regime, advocated for democracy and the rule of law and criticised the war he intitated against Ukraine – die in a brutal "Gulag Archipelago" that mocked all human rights principles, calling him a "blogger" with derisive amusement. Is it a coincidence or a sign that *Alexei Navalny* died on the day the Munich Security Conference began? We will find out at some point when the "day of accountability" comes, as *Yulia Navalnaya*, his wife, called it with incredible composure and confidence at the conference, as proof "that we are strong, that we are brave, that we (...) want to live differently."

A joint statement by
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