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DIRECTOR-GENERAL OF UNESCO DEPLORES THE DEATH OF A JOURNALIST IN BUDYONNOVSK

Paris, 19 June - The Director-General of UNESCO, Federico Mayor, today deplored the assassination of a Russian journalist fatally wounded on Saturday evening near Budyonnovsk, a southern city in the Russian Federation.

“I offer my heartfelt condolences to the family of Natalia Aliakina, and to her husband, who saw this courageous journalist die in front of him,” declared Mr Mayor. “We must condemn the murder of men and women who work for the free flow of information. In the absence of journalists, it is impossible to know the truth. This simple fact must push us to demand free and safe working conditions for those who risk their life to keep us informed.”

Natalia Aliakina, 40, worked for the German magazine Focus, covering the events in Budyonnovsk.
