

July 9th – the 5th death commemoration of Paul Khlebnikov

Paul Khlebnikov, the first Editor-in-Chief of the Russian Forbes Magazine, was killed five years ago, on July 9th, 2004.

He was shot dead nearby the building of the Axel Springer Russia Publishing House in Moscow. Investigations identified the supposed offenders, and 2005 the case was sent to the court. In May, 2006, the Moscow City Court, according to the verdict of the trial jury, found the defendants not guilty. By the end of 2007, the case was sent back to the General Prosecutor's Office for further investigations, but in the Summer 2009, shortly before the 5th commemoration of Paul Khlebnikov's death, the case was dismissed.

Regina von Flemming, CEO of Axel Springer Russia publishing the Russian edition of Forbes Magazine: «Five years ago, we lost a professional colleague, a wonderful journalist and friend. Those guilty of this crime have not been punished yet. We feel sorrow for dismissing the case and express our hope that investigations will be continued and the offenders will be brought to a just punishment».

Steve Forbes, CEO and Editor in chief of Forbes stated: «The murder of Paul Klebnikov still shocks today. The pursuit and punishment of his murderers is critical. To let up would be to betray Paul's noble vision for Russia.»

The Paul Khlebnikov memorial service will be held on July, 7th in the Christ the Saviour Cathedral (15, Volkhonka Street) at 5 p.m. The service will be attended by relatives, colleagues and representatives of the German and the US Embassy.

Paul Khlebnikov was born in 1963 in New York to a family of Russian First-Wave emigrants and grew up in this city. In 1984, he graduated from the University of California, Berkeley with a diploma in Political Science. In 1985 he received his Master degree at the London School of Economics and defended his PhD thesis in 1991. Since 1989, Paul Khlebnikov worked in New York as correspondent of the American Forbes.

Paul Khlebnikov wrote about the activities of leading American and international companies as well as events and people in Russia – economic reforms, businessmen and politicians. In 2000 the English version of Paul Khlebnikov's book " Godfather of the Kremlin: Boris Berezovsky and the Looting of Russia " was published to be followed in 2003 by his book "Conversation with a Barbarian" dealing with the organized crime in Chechnya and based on his talks with the Chechen field commander Khozh-Ahmed Noukhaev.

In early 2004, Paul Khlebnikov advanced into the position of the Editor-in-Chief of the Russian Forbes Edition. Under his guidance, the first four issues of the Magazine were published.

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