

AMNESTY INTERNATIONAL PUBLIC STATEMENT

AI Index: EUR 46/019/2012
4 May 2012

Amnesty International condemns Dagestan suicide bombing

Amnesty International condemns the dual bomb attack in the Republic of Dagestan, Russian Federation. According to reports, at around 10.20pm a suicide bomber blew up a car carrying explosives near a police road post in the Dagestani capital Makhachkala, one of the biggest and busiest towns in the North Caucasus. Several police were injured. After law enforcement officials and emergency services arrived at the site a second, more powerful, bomb was set off in a vehicle parked nearby. It scattered debris over hundreds of metres, caused huge fire and damaged several buildings in the vicinity. According to various reports, the attack resulted in between 10 and 13 deaths, mostly among police officers. Over 120 people were injured, most of them civilians. At least 12 people are in critical condition.

Attacks which indiscriminately cause casualties among the general population demonstrate contempt for the fundamental principles of humanity.

The authorities believe members of a local armed group are behind the attack. There must be a prompt and thorough investigation into this bombing, and those responsible must be prosecuted and brought to trial in proceedings that fully comply with international human rights law.

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