

Bodyguards Attack RFE/RL Journalists, Ukrainian TV Crew at Kyiv Airport **Ukraine**

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Ukrainian tycoon Viktor Medvedchuk has close personal ties with Russian President Vladimir Putin.

By RFE/RL's Ukrainian Service, updated Nov 8, 2017 KYIV -- Journalists working on a joint project by RFE/RL and Ukraine's UA Pershiy (First) television channel say they were attacked by masked bodyguards at Kyiv's Zhulyany Airport while working on a report about the arrival from Russia of Viktor Medvedchuk, the leader of the pro-Russian Ukrainian Choice organization. Mykhaylo Tkach, an RFE/RL Ukrainian Service correspondent with the Skhemy (Schemes) project, said on Facebook that masked men attacked the journalists late on November 7 and prevented them from filming the arrival of the politician and his plane. They elbowed us, pushed us, tripped us, and kicked the camera out of our cameraman's hands twice, Tkach wrote. They blocked our vehicle with a dashboard camera in it so that we were unable to film the landing of Viktor Medvedchuk's plane arriving from Russia and him passing through the terminal. Tkach said the masked men appeared to be the same bodyguards who work for Medvedchuk at Zhulyany Airport whenever he boards flights for Moscow or returns from visits to Russia. [hellip;] <https://www.rferl.org/a/ukraine-medvedchuk-airport/28841831.html>