

**Dmitry Muratov** started out as a journalist for Soviet newspapers. After the dissolution of the Soviet Union in 1991, he and other journalists co-founded the newspaper *Novaya Gazeta*, which soon became a leading advocate for democracy and freedom of expression in Russia. The Soviet Union's last leader and the 1990 Nobel Peace Prize laureate, Mikhail Gorbachev, supported the newspaper financially and became co-owner in 2006. Mr Muratov has been editor-in-chief for most years since 1995. Under Mr Muratov's leadership, *Novaya Gazeta* has criticized the Russian authorities for corruption, electoral fraud and human rights violations. Six of the newspaper's journalists have been murdered because they wrote critical articles on Russian military operations in Chechnya and the Caucasus. The best known of them is Anna Politkovskaya. As editor-in-chief Mr Muratov has on several occasions criticized Russia's annexation of Crimea in 2014 and the government's use of military force, both in and outside Russia. In March 2022, *Novaia Gazeta* suspended operations due to "military censorship." The following month Muratov was attacked on a train by a man who threw red paint mixed with acetone at him. Although Muratov suffered chemical burns, he was not severely injured. In 2022, Dmitry Muratov has been awarded the Nobel Peace Prize. In June 2022 he auctioned off his Nobel Prize medal to raise money for Ukrainian refugees, and it sold for a record \$103.5 million.