

Official Wants to Eliminate Anonymous Payments via Terminals

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The head of the country's drug enforcement agency has proposed eliminating anonymous money transfers through free-standing payment terminals.

<u>Federal Drug Control Service</u> Director Viktor Ivanov said Friday that the ability to send money through virtual payment systems without identification could be helping drug dealers.

Common payment terminal brands include Qiwi, CyberPlat and Eleksnet. State-owned Sberbank also offers many terminals for bill payments and transactions.

[&]quot;If drug dealers use [payment systems], it is a very minute number," Ivanov said.

[&]quot;Nonetheless, we believe that it is necessary to make the [process of] sending of money in this financial system more strict."

[&]quot;Accountholders must be identified," he said.

It wasn't immediately clear whether Ivanov also was targeting online payment systems, which are offered by many of the same companies running the terminals. Generally, registration using personal information is required on such sites.

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