The Moscow Times
30 YEARS
INDEPENDENT NEWS FROM RUSSIA

Finland Detains Russian Suspected of U.S. Malware Crimes

August 27, 2015

HELSINKI — Finland confirmed on Thursday it has detained a Russian citizen, Maxim Senakh, at the request of U.S. federal authorities on computer fraud charges, in a move that Russia calls illegal.

The Finnish justice ministry says Senakh is accused in the state of Minnesota of infecting computer servers with malware, resulting in criminal gains worth millions of dollars.

Konstantin Dolgov, the Russian Foreign Ministry's special representative for human rights, said on Wednesday that Senakh's detention was "another demonstration of the illegal practice of detaining Russian citizens abroad launched by U.S. authorities."

If Finland had suspicions that Senakh was involved in illegal activity, it would have been more logical to send such information to Russia, Dolgov added in a statement.

The Finnish justice ministry said U.S. authorities have 45 days from the start of Senakh's detention to submit an official extradition request.

Dolgov said Russia's position was that Senakh could not be handed over to U.S. authorities. Senakh was detained on Aug. 8, the ministry said.

Original url:
https://www.themoscowtimes.com/2015/08/27/finland-detains-russian-suspected-of-us-malware-crimes-a49210