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Turkey Introduces Visa Regime for Russian Journalists

By The Moscow Times

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Turkey has introduced visa requirements for Russian journalists starting from Feb. 15, the Interfax news agency reported, citing a representative of the Turkish Embassy in Moscow.

The new visa regime has been implemented on the basis of reciprocity and will apply to all employees of the Russian media planning journalistic trips to Turkey from Feb. 15, even if their trip's duration does not exceed six months, the unidentified representative said, Interfax reported Wednesday.

For Russian journalists permanently working in Turkey, requirements for entering the country have not changed, the RIA Novosti news agency reported.

Russia halted visa-free regime for Turkish nationals from Jan. 1 — part of sanctions that followed the downing of a Russian fighter-bomber by Turkey near the Syrian border.

The measures also include a ban on selling package tours to Turkey, an import ban on a range

of Turkish food items and restrictions on work visas for Turkish citizens.

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