

# Russia and Iran Holding Talks on Visa-Free Tourist Travel

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President Vladimir Putin and Iranian President Hassan Rouhani in 2014

Iran's Ambassador to Russia Mehdi Sanaei announced that talks are under way between Tehran and Moscow on the possibility of canceling visa requirements for tourist groups, the Interfax news agency reported Sunday.

"We are already holding talks [on this], but it is too early to talk about a complete cancellation of the visa regime between the two countries," Sanaei said, Interfax reported.

It was earlier reported that a number of European airlines had been advised to reopen regular air travel to Iran.

European air operators ceased flying to Iran five years ago after the introduction of sanctions on the country. Iranian air travel with Europe is provided by Iran Air, which carries out three flights a week to London and two to Paris and Amsterdam.

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