

Moscow's Dante Alighieri Library Saved From Eviction

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Dante Alighieri Library in Moscow

Moscow authorities have cancelled an order which gave the Dante Alighieri Library building on Ulitsa Stroiteley in the southwest of Moscow to the Investigative Committee, the TASS news agency reported, citing the head of Moscow's Department of Culture Alexandr Kibovsky.

The official who initiated the order has been reprimanded for abusing his authority, Kibovsky added.

Russian media on Friday reported that the organization would be evicted from its premises in Moscow on May 1, citing library employees. The building would be given to Russia's Investigative Committee and the library's collections moved to other libraries.

The head of Moscow's southwestern branch of the Central Library System Vadim Talanov issued an order on the library's eviction on Thursday despite the fact that City Hall's Property Department hadn't taken any decision on the matter, Kibovsky said.

Despite the order's cancellation, uncertainty remains about the library's future as the Investigative Committee is still interested in acquiring the building.

However, “while the property issues remain unsolved, we will not take any action,” Kibovsky was quoted as saying by TASS.

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