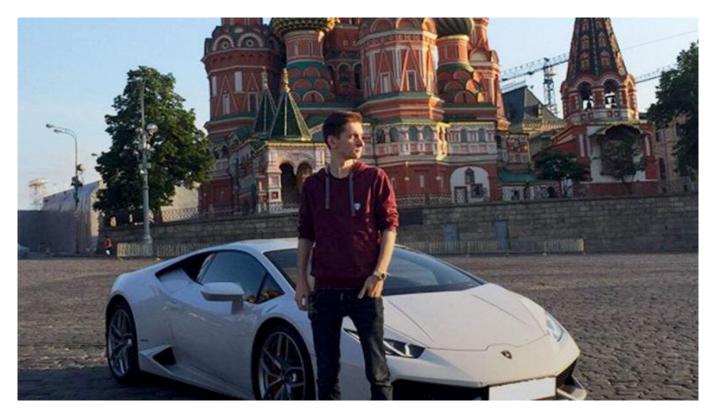


Moscow Seeks Extradition of Hacker Back to Russia

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Russian authorities are considering the possibility of requesting that a suspected hacker who was arrested in the Czech Republic be extradited to Russia.

"Law enforcement agencies are checking the information ... on the subject of his possible involvement in any offenses," a source familiar with the case told the Interfax news agency. "A request may be sent to Prague."

The source also said that the Czech government would have to consider both American and Russian extradition requests, and that in such a situation the petition of the individual's nationality takes precedence.

On Oct. 19, Yevgeny Nikulin, a Russian citizen, was arrested in Prague by local police working with the FBI. The American side is currently seeking his extradition to the United States.

"The Russian Foreign Ministry and embassy in Prague are actively working with the

authorities in order to prevent the extradition of a Russian citizen to the United States," said Maria Zakharova, spokesperson for Russia's Foreign Ministry.

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