

## Russian Court Bans Online Bribery Instructions

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A Russian court has⊠found something else unusual to ban online: bribery⊠instructions.

On Oct. 10, a Krasnoyarsk city court ruled in favor of the regional prosecutor's request to ban websites providing instructions on giving illegal kickbacks to public officials. The ruling, which was <u>announced</u> on the prosecutor's website on Thursday, will allow for the blocking of a series of articles entitled "How to properly give kickbacks."

Such publications "negatively affect anti-corruption work, undermine government authority, and create social preconditions for committing [corruption] crimes," the prosecutor's office wrote.

Kickbacks – otkat in Russian – refer to a form of bribery in which an official chooses a

private contractor to provide a service for the state with the understanding that, in return, the contractor will give the official a fixed bribe or a percent of the income from the contract.

Earlier this⊠month, a court in the town of Arzamas <u>blocked</u> an online article based upon the⊠1837 book "How to Correctly Take Bribes." The article was published⊠on an educational website.

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