

## Russia to Pay Off Soviet-era Debt to Bosnia-Herzegovina Within 45 Days

March 21, 2017



## **Maxim Novikov / TASS**

Russia has agreed to settle its outstanding Soviet-era debt with a \$125.2 million payout to Bosnia-Herzegovina, Deputy Finance Minister Sergei Storchak <u>told</u> Interfax March 21.

Russia closed its Soviet-era debts to the other states in the former Socialist Federal Republic of Yugoslavia - Croatia, Serbia, Montenegro, Slovenia and Macedonia - over the last five years.

An agreement signed between Russia and Bosnia-Herzegovina on March 21 recalculated the Soviet-era debt into U.S. dollars at the rate used in the original memorandum from Sept. 17, 2003.

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The amount is "\$125.2 million and is repayable by a one-time cash payment within 45

calendar days," Storchak told reporters at a press conference on Tuesday.

In February, an anonymous source from the Finance Ministry <u>told</u> Russian tabloid Izvestia that Russia would clear its debts by the end of summer. Russia has already closed debts to Western creditors and to China.

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