

Russia to Scrap HIV Adoption Ban – Reports

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Russian people living with HIV will soon be able to adopt children for the first time.

The ban will be scrapped as part of a new state strategy to combat the disease, [Russia's Kommersant newspaper reported Friday](#).

“Adoption is completely possible if a person with HIV is receiving therapy,” an unnamed source close to the government told *Kommersant*. “There are also children waiting to be adopted who have HIV themselves. Why wouldn't a person with HIV be able to adopt such a child?”

The changes will be made no later than the second quarter of 2018, *Kommersant* reported.

Related article: [Russia Wishes Away Its HIV Epidemic](#)

Russia's latest strategy to eradicate HIV, which was signed by Russian Prime Minister Dmitry Medvedev on April 20, will focus on working with at-risk groups, as well as spreading HIV awareness and fighting discrimination. Details have not yet officially been made available to the public.

The proposals will also push for a new law making it illegal for Russians advocate boycotts of HIV testing and treatment, *Kommersant* reported.

The newspaper did not specify whether laws banning people with HIV from serving in the Russian army, or forbidding foreigners with HIV from living in Russia, would also be scrapped.

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