

Foreigners Can Now Fight in Russia's Overseas Military Campaigns

October 09, 2017



Simonov Nikita / Moskva News Agency

Foreign citizens can now be deployed in Russia's military operations abroad, according to a new decree [signed](#) by President Vladimir Putin on Sunday.

Foreigners have been [allowed](#) to enlist in the Russian army and Interior Ministry troops under a January 2015 decree.

Russia's new decree, published on Monday, allows foreign nationals to take part in combat operations outside Russian borders.

The law's previous iteration was ostensibly [aimed](#) at legalizing the status of citizens of former Soviet republics already serving in the Russian military.

Related article: [Inside Russia's Would-Be Foreign Legion](#)

The 2015 policy came into force five years after it was proposed to provide legal status to locals serving on Russian bases in Armenia and Tajikistan.

Original url:

<https://www.themoscowtimes.com/2017/10/09/foreigners-can-now-fight-in-russias-overseas-military-campaigns-a59208>