

Russian Civil Servant Salaries To Increase for First Time Since 2013

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Vladimir Putin / Kremlin Press Service

President Vladimir Putin on Wednesday signed a decree to increase the salaries of federal civil servants for the first time in four years.

Government salaries were last increased in 2013, just before Russia's economy entered a lengthy financial crisis caused by a fall in oil prices, the collapse of the ruble and international sanctions over Russia's annexation of Crimea from Ukraine in 2014.

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Starting Jan. 1, 2018, state salaries will increase by 4 percent, which is less than the last increase of 5.5 percent in Oct. 2013, the RBC business portal <u>reports</u>.

Finance Minister Anton Siluanov was cited by the state-run TASS news agency as saying that

real wages will increase by more than 4 percent in 2018.

According to Russia's federal statistics agency <u>Rosstat</u>, the average federal civil servant salary in 2016 amounted to 115,700 rubles (\$2000) per month.

By comparison, Russia's living wage was set at 10,328 rubles (\$175) per month in the third quarter of 2017, the state-run RIA Novosti news agency <u>reported</u> on Tuesday.

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