

Putin Signs New Decree for Military Rearmament, Kremlin Confirms

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Andrei Lyubimov / Moskva News Agency

President Vladimir Putin has signed Russia's updated military armament strategy, his spokesperson confirmed on Monday.

Russia's previous state armament program, which is said to have <u>cost</u> the nation around \$1 trillion, sought to <u>overhaul</u> 70 percent of the armed forces' Soviet-era hardware by 2020.

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Kremlin spokesman Dmitry Peskov confirmed that the Russian president had signed the updated 10-year program before the New Year, Interfax <u>reported</u> on Monday.

"This is a secret presidential decree so I can't disclose anything," he told reporters.

Deputy Prime Minister Dmitry Rogozin <u>told</u> the Kommersant business daily Monday that the updated 2018-2027 program was amended based on assessments of the country's military

operations in Syria.

Around 19 trillion rubles (\$340 billion) would be allocated on the new rearmament program, Kommersant <u>reported</u> last year, with priority given to developing nuclear deterrence, precision-guided munitions and a vertical take-off and landing jet.

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