Bribe Taking in Russia Triples in 2017, new Figures Show

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Ilya Naymushin / Reuters

Russia's National Anti-Corruption Committee has seen a tripling in bribe-taking in the past year to nearly $119 million.

Transparency International anti-corruption charity's global survey [said](#) that every third Russian paid a bribe for public services in 2017. Russia [ranked](#) 135th out of 180 countries in the NGO's latest Corruption Perceptions Index.

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"The total amount of bribes received for all reported crimes under Article 290 of Russia's Criminal Code amounted to 6.7 billion rubles [$119 million]," the state-run RIA Novosti news agency [reported](#) Monday, citing the anti-corruption committee's bulletin.

In 2016, the committee recorded 2.3 billion ($41 million) rubles in accepted bribes, the news agency reported.

The RBC business portal [cited](#) Transparency International Russia's deputy head Ilya Shumanov as saying that 7 billion rubles in accepted bribes was the "tip of the iceberg."

"Approximately the same amount was found in the apartment of Interior Ministry colonel Dmitry Zakharchenko," Shumanov said, [referring](#) to a continuing high-profile case involving the former anti-corruption cop.

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