

Russian Bank Blames Millennials for Threatening Pension System

June 08, 2018



Sergei Kiselyov / Moskva News Agency

Russia's financial regulator has predicted the decline of the national pension system as a result of the millennial generation's preference for instant gratification and the sharing economy.

Russians born between 1980 and 2000 makes up more than half of the country's working-age population, according to official statistics. Prime Minister Dmitry Medvedev's new cabinet is expected to discuss extending the retirement age in Russia later this month, the RBC business portal <u>reported</u>.

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In its 2019-2021 financial market guidelines report <u>published</u> this week, Russia's Central Bank named millennials' changing attitude towards savings as a factor that threatened the

future of the country's financial system.

"Despite the Russian youth's relatively active savings, the majority tends to invest spare money into receiving quality experiences which are not always forward-looking," the guideline reads.

"This could undermine the sustainability of the existing pension system in the medium term," the Central Bank said.

The regulator said the youth's trend toward "Uberization," or the switch in focus from owning goods to using them temporarily, "could impact the balance of savings in the economy and the population's strategies for savings."

"After all, the final value for a consumer in most cases is using, rather than owning," it explained.

It warned that lack of retirement savings could constrain the younger generation later in life and offered an "automatic registration" pension plan as a solution.

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