

# Internet Anonymity Will Soon Disappear, Russian Culture Minister Warns

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**Vladimir Medinsky (Andrei Nikerichev / Moskva News Agency)**

Internet users throughout the world will soon need IDs to go online as anonymity will gradually fade into oblivion, Russia's culture minister predicted on Monday.

Russia has for years [called](#) for international regulations cementing state control over the internet, arguing that national governments are otherwise left vulnerable to cyberattacks from foreign powers. Russian lawmakers [submitted](#) a draft bill last month tightening state control over the internet in response to what they termed an "aggressive" U.S. national cybersecurity strategy.

**Related article:** [Russia Says National Governments Should Control the Internet](#)

Russia's outspoken Culture Minister Vladimir Medinsky called the internet "overly free" and said it "definitely needs to be regulated" in an interview with the state-run TASS news agency

published Monday.

“It will be more strictly regulated in the future all over the world, trust me,” the minister was quoted as [saying](#).

Medinsky predicted that online sales and internet access will only be allowed with personal IDs, saying “all of anonymity will gradually disappear into a notional darknet.”

“I guarantee you that we will access the internet with passports,” Medinsky added, clarifying that his statements were just a "personal forecast."

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