

Russia's Foreign Debt Shrinks to Decade Low

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Russia's overall foreign debt fell by \$64.4 billion last year to reach a 10-year low, Central Bank data showed Monday.

Foreign debt has been <u>falling</u> since 2014, when Western sanctions imposed over the conflict in Ukraine made it harder for companies to borrow abroad.

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According to the Central Bank's latest figures published Monday, Russia's public and private debt declined by 12.4 percent to \$453.75 billion as of Dec. 31 — its lowest level since April 1, 2009.

"All institutional sectors reduced their external liabilities, while other sectors' indebtedness dropped by \$32.3 billion contributing the most to the country's external debt contraction," the bank said.

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