

CCTV Cameras Are Tracking Down Debtors in Moscow, Official Says

February 27, 2019



Moskva News Agency

Moscow's facial-recognition surveillance cameras are now being deployed by collectors to track down debtors, the city's chief bailiff told state media on Wednesday.

The Russian capital [claims](#) one of the world's largest facial-recognition systems, with 174,000 closed-circuit TV (CCTV) cameras [expected](#) to be in operation this year. In 2018, personal loans in Russia [grew](#) by 46 percent compared to 2017, amounting to 8.6 trillion rubles (\$130 billion).

"We can now trace the debtors' movements" thanks to this sprawling network, Sergei Zamorodskikh, the head of the Federal Court Marshals Service's Moscow branch, [told](#) the state-run TASS news agency.

Related article: [Russia's Debt Collectors Bring Back Brutality of the 1990s](#)

Zamorodskikh did not say how many debtors the technology had helped nab so far, noting only that 1,500 photographs of debtors have been uploaded into the facial-recognition system.

According to the RBC news website, 1,600 debtors were [tracked down](#) and 90 billion rubles (\$1.36 billion) collected in 2018.

“Considering the results were not bad, we think [the use of facial recognition] will continue in 2019,” Zamorodskikh was quoted as saying.

Original url:

<https://www.themoscowtimes.com/2019/02/27/cctv-cameras-are-tracking-down-debtors-in-moscow-official-says-a64653>