

Corruption in Russia's Military Quadrupled in 2018, Prosecutors Say

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Alexander Avilov / Moskva News Agency

Corruption in Russia's military has quadrupled to 7 billion rubles (\$109.8 million) last year, the top federal military prosecutor said on Thursday.

Russia [ranks](#) among the world's most [corrupt](#) countries in international ratings, with corruption-related crimes [costing](#) an estimated \$2.5 billion in damages between 2014 and 2017. Observers have [said](#) that anti-graft campaigns under President Vladimir Putin's rule have brought little progress.

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“The crimes in this category aren't going down, and the damage caused has increased fourfold [since 2017] to exceed 7 billion rubles,” the state-run TASS news agency quoted Chief Military Prosecutor Valery Petrov as [saying](#).

Speaking at the annual board meeting of the chief military prosecutor's office, Petrov identified corruption as "the root cause of most problems in the rule of law," calling on nationwide efforts to crack down on violations.

More than 2,800 Russian military officials were brought to justice for corruption in 2018, he [said](#).

The chief military prosecutor's office oversees more than 7,000 state contracts valued at 1.7 trillion rubles, Interfax quoted him as [saying](#).

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