

Russia Jails Last FSB Scandal Suspect for Treason

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Dmitry Dokuchayev fbi.gov, Pixabay / MT

A former agent of Russia's Federal Security Service (FSB) has been sentenced to six years in maximum-security prison on charges of treason in the agency's worst <u>scandal</u> in recent history.

Ex-FSB operative Dmitry Dokuchayev was the last of four high-profile figures to receive treason sentences. All four were arrested in Russia in December 2016 shortly after the U.S. accused Russia of trying to influence its presidential election through hacking.

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The Moscow Military District Court handed Dokuchayev a six-year sentence and stripped the major of his military rank after finding him guilty of treason, Interfax reported Wednesday.

His superior, ex-FSB security officer Sergei Mikhailov, and cybersecurity expert Ruslan Stoyanov were sentenced to 22 and 14 years respectively on the same charges in February.

Meduza <u>reported</u> that Dokuchayev received a lighter sentence after agreeing to a plea bargain and testifying against Mikhailov.

Source-based reporting has <u>claimed</u> that Mikhailov handed FSB secrets to Dokuchayev, who then gave them to Stoyanov — who then <u>gave</u> them to a U.S. cybercrime threat analyst.

The treason charges are linked to leaks to the U.S. on the Russian founder of the Chronopay payment system. Russian media <u>reported</u> in 2017 that the group was suspected of providing U.S. officials with information about Russian military intelligence hacking of the Democratic National Committee — though the allegation was never officially included in their charges.

Russian internet entrepreneur Georgy Fomchenkov — another suspected liaison between Mikhailov and the U.S. — was <u>sentenced</u> to seven years in prison for state treason in the interests of the United States last week.

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All cases were classified and the trials were held behind closed doors.

The U.S. <u>charged</u> Dokuchayev and other alleged accomplices in 2017 for hacking millions of Yahoo email accounts.

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