

Russia's Dagestan, Chechnya Halt Border Talks Amid Ingushetia Unrest

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Russia's republics of Dagestan and Chechnya have suspended negotiations over border delineations following months of public anger over Chechnya's land swap deal with neighboring Ingushetia.

Protests <u>reignited</u> in the North Caucasus republic of Ingushetia last month to demand the resignation of its governor, who signed the land swap agreement with Chechen leader Ramzan Kadyrov in fall 2018. Dagestan and Chechnya have been <u>involved</u> in negotiations over their 400-kilometer border since the start of 2019.

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The Chechen legislative assembly <u>announced</u> on Tuesday that the border delineation works have been suspended, which its Dagestani equivalent <u>confirmed</u>.

Neither legislative body said when the works are expected to resume.

Vladimir Vasilyev, the acting head of Dagestan, had <u>vowed</u> in February to avoid a repeat of "the Ingush scenario" in ongoing border talks over eight disputed territories with Chechnya.

In November 2018, a map <u>appeared</u> on the Chechen legislative assembly website showing a number of Dagestani territories as Chechen entities. The map was later deleted without explanation.

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