

Russian Government Rejects Proposal to Fine Officials for Insulting Citizens

May 22, 2019



Andrei Lyubimov / Moskva News Agency

The Russian government has rejected a bill that would have introduced fines for officials who exhibit disrespect toward citizens, weeks after lawmakers passed a bill that introduced fines for disrespecting the authorities.

Communist lawmakers introduced the legislation in February, seeking to [fine](#) and suspend civil servants for humiliating voters. Around the same time, another bill that [criminalized](#) “blatant disrespect” of Russian authorities was swiftly making its way through the State Duma and became [law](#) in March.

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The government legislative commission rejected the proposed bill as “unnecessary” due to existing anti-insult laws, the state-run TASS news agency [reported](#) on Wednesday.

Public officials across Russia have increasingly made national headlines for being caught on record insulting regular citizens, at times using terms like “[excrement](#)” and “[riff-raff](#)” to refer to them.

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