

Former Russian Anti-Corruption Official Sentenced to 13 Years for Bribery

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Sergei Savostyanov / TASS

A Moscow court has sentenced a former anti-corruption official in the Interior Ministry to 13 years in prison after finding him guilty of large-scale bribery and obstruction of justice.

Dmitry Zakharchenko, who served as deputy head of the Interior Ministry's economic security and anti-corruption office, was arrested in September 2016 on bribery and abuse of power charges. Authorities [seized](#) 9 billion rubles from Zakharchenko's apartments in 2017, which was then valued at around \$125 million, the largest cash seizure in modern Russian history at the time.

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The Presnensky district court also ordered Zakharchenko to pay 117 million rubles (\$1.8 million) in fines, the state-run RIA Novosti news outlet [reported](#) Monday.

Zakharchenko was found guilty of receiving bribes in the form of a discount card from restaurateur Mehdi Douss, which allowed him to save 3 million rubles (\$46,000) at the restaurant La Maree in exchange for protection. RIA Novosti reported that he was acquitted of another count of bribery that claimed he took an \$800,000 bribe from Douss.

The court also found Zakharchenko guilty of taking actions “to obstruct the investigation” into the bribery, RIA Novosti reported.

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