

'I'm Not Baggage': Russian Pets Unite in Flashmob After Cats' Airplane Death

January 28, 2020



People shared photos of their pets in suitcases to call for justice over two cats that died after flying in an Aeroflot cargo hold. [angelbengal / Instagram](#)

Russian airline Aeroflot has become a target for social media criticism yet again after two cats were [killed](#) and another diagnosed with frostbite after flying from New York to Moscow in the plane's cargo hold.

The fatal incident is the latest blow to the airline's public image after it stripped the airline miles from a passenger who snuck his overweight cat into the cabin because he feared the cat wouldn't survive a trip in the cargo hold.

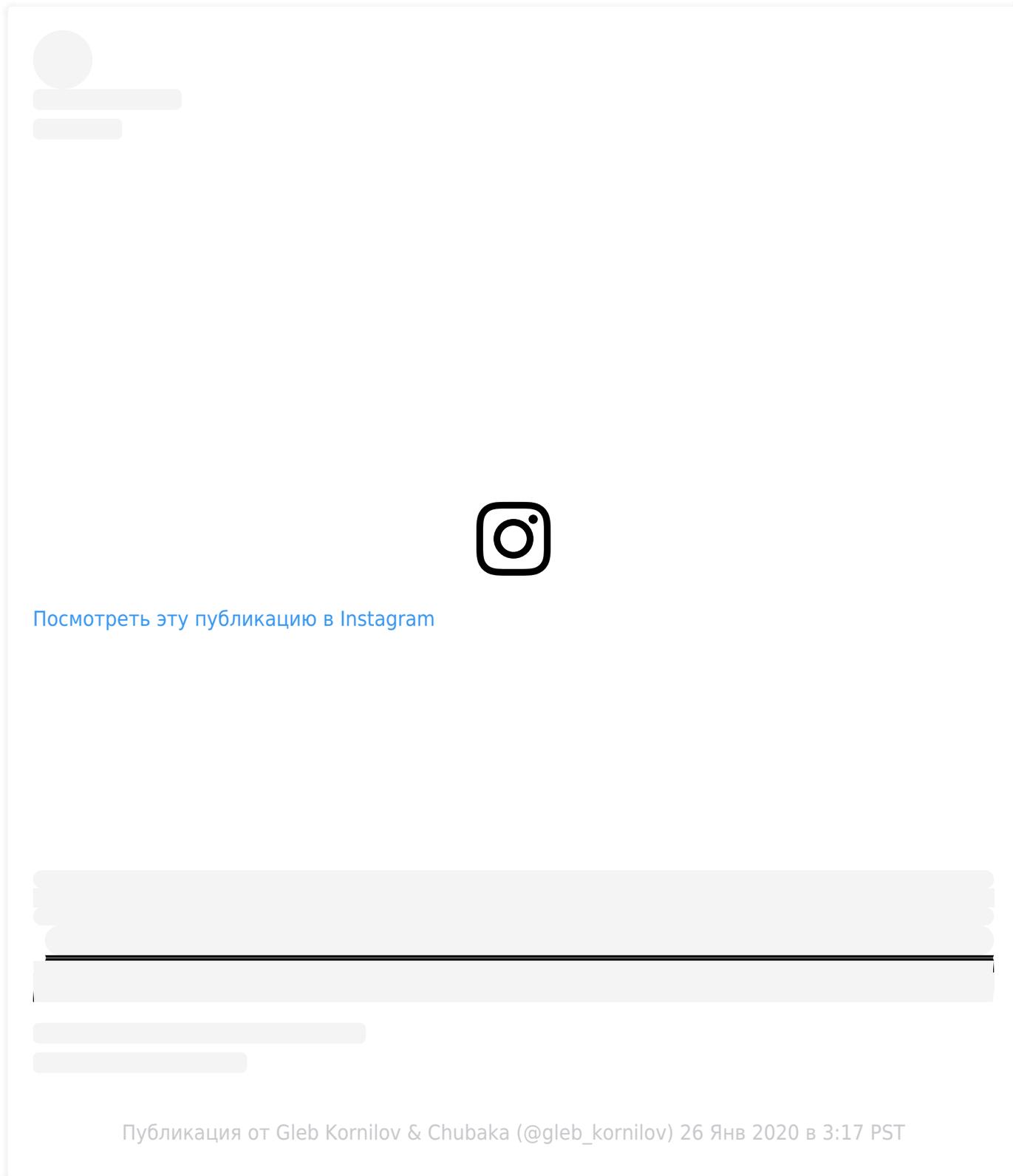
Related article: [Aeroflot, Sheremetyevo Under Fire For Cat Passengers' Deaths](#)

After the cats' deaths, Russian users took to Aeroflot's social media pages to leave negative comments, many of which were deleted. Soon, the comments transformed into a flashmob of photos showing pets in suitcases next to a sign saying "I'm not baggage. I'm a passenger!"

Here's a look at some of the pets who stood together in solidarity:

"Your dog is a suitcase for us, @aeroflot says. And this is not a problem for Aeroflot alone. This is the general approach to passengers with pets."

Embed:



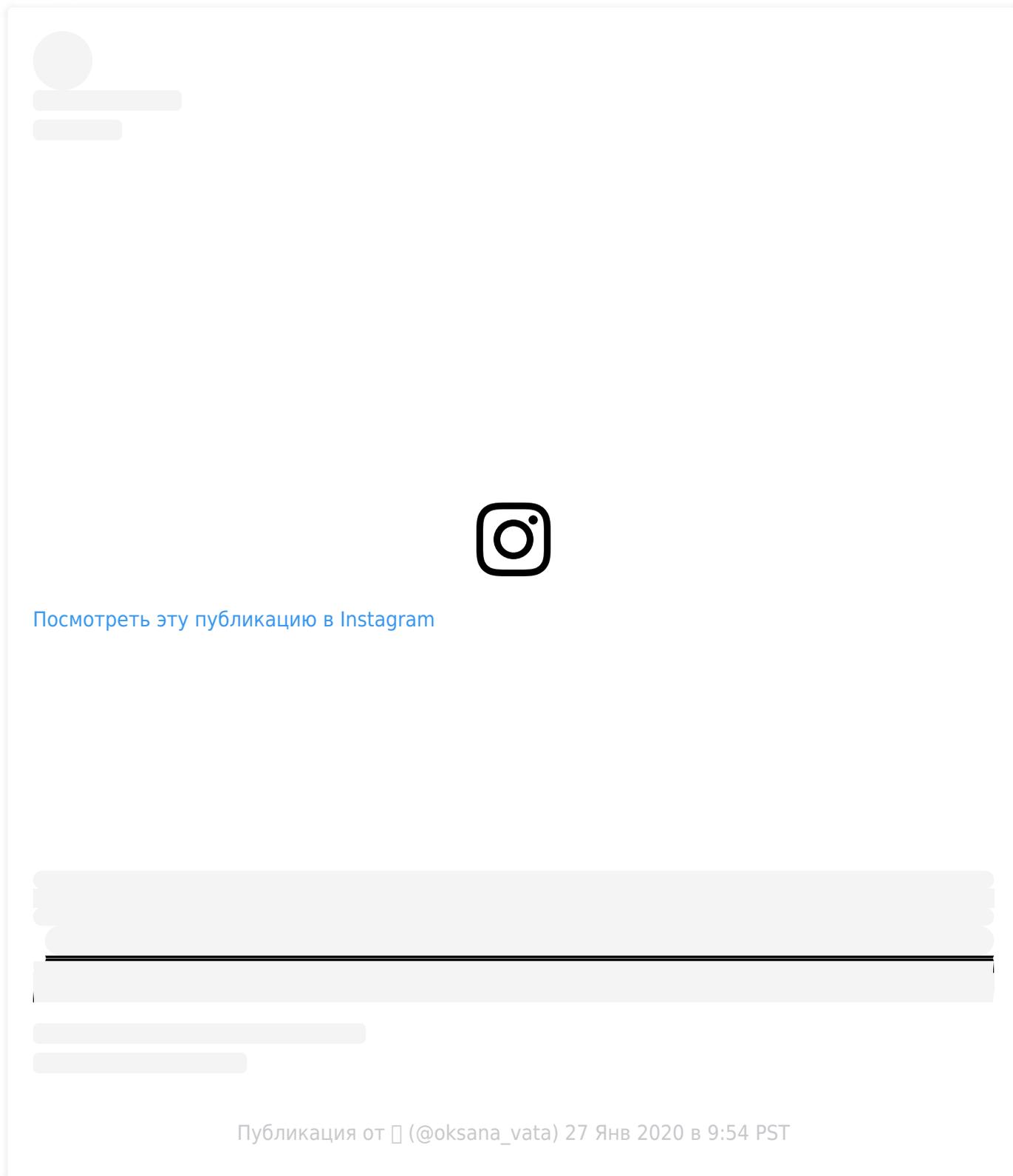
Посмотреть эту публикацию в Instagram

Публикация от Gleb Kornilov & Chubaka (@gleb_kornilov) 26 Янв 2020 в 3:17 PST

"Your dog is baggage for us' @aeroflot thinks, but for some, a dog is a living, loving, feeling

family member. @svo_airport perhaps it's enough for killing?"

Embed:

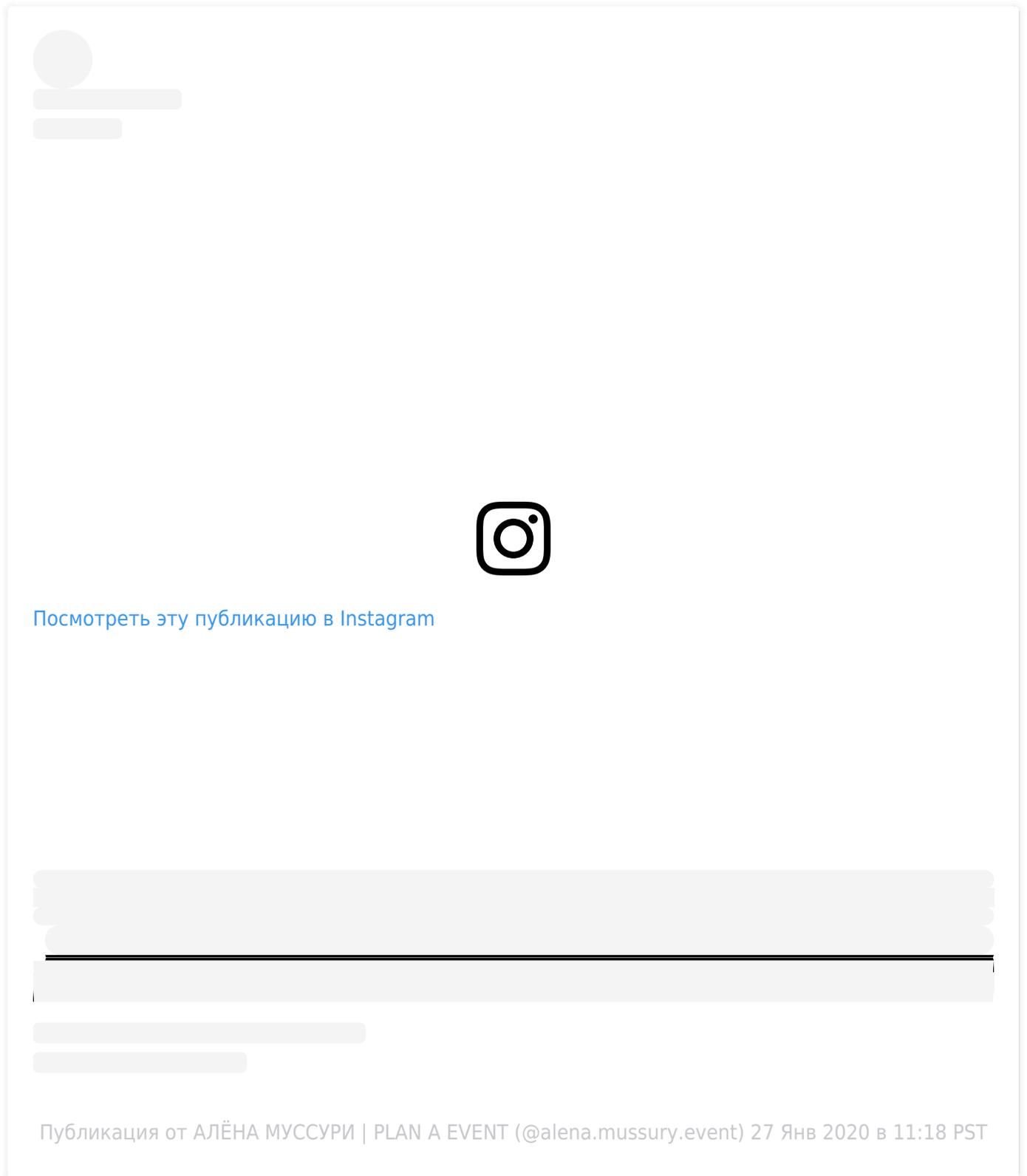
An Instagram embed placeholder. It features a grey profile picture and name in the top left corner. In the center is the Instagram logo. Below the logo is a blue link that says "Посмотреть эту публикацию в Instagram". At the bottom, there is a grey bar representing the post content, followed by a thin black line, and another grey bar representing the caption. At the very bottom, it says "Публикация от [redacted] (@oksana_vata) 27 Янв 2020 в 9:54 PST".

Посмотреть эту публикацию в Instagram

Публикация от [redacted] (@oksana_vata) 27 Янв 2020 в 9:54 PST

“There will be no discussions about the inadmissibility of the situation with Aeroflot... I [never] register my dogs as baggage.”

Embed:



Посмотреть эту публикацию в Instagram

Публикация от АЛЁНА МУССУРИ | PLAN A EVENT (@alena.mussury.event) 27 Янв 2020 в 11:18 PST

“We demand decisive action from air carriers and airports to prevent such horror in the future!”

Embed:



[Посмотреть эту публикацию в Instagram](#)



Публикация от Brianna Poodle (@brianna_poodle) 27 Янв 2020 в 5:54 PST

Some users told their stories of animal cruelty during flights and called for actions to be taken to hold airlines accountable for pets' safety.

“After my experience, I started shouting about bad attitude toward animals and their owners during the flight to encourage people not to be silent and to call the airline and airport for responsibility.”

Embed:



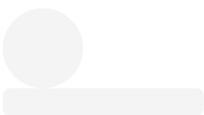
[Посмотреть эту публикацию в Instagram](#)



Публикация от #ЯЖЕСОБАЧНИЦА [@dog_novella) 27 Янв 2020 в 7:06 PST

“A question for the Aeroflot employees who did this — are you human beings?”

Embed:





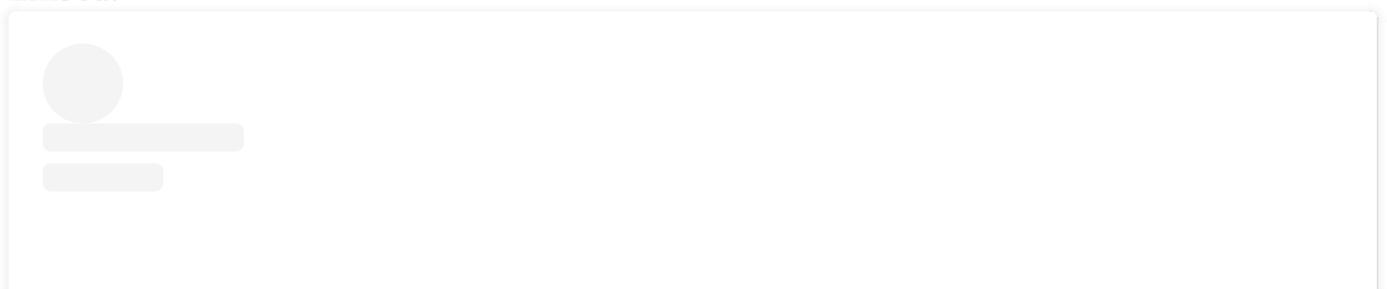
[Посмотреть эту публикацию в Instagram](#)



Публикация от Murphy 🐱 (@murphy_cat) 26 Янв 2020 в 10:28 PST

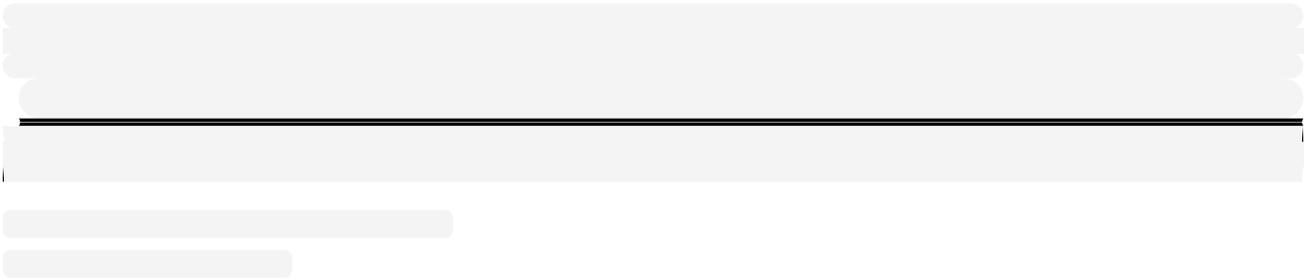
“Cruelty can't be justified by orders and regulations. Why do they begin to act and change something only after something irreparable happens?”

Embed:





[Посмотреть эту публикацию в Instagram](#)



Публикация от Анастасия Анастасия (@laskoviiveter) 26 Янв 2020 в 5:21 PST

“I’m not baggage. I’m a passenger and a friend”

Embed:





[Посмотреть эту публикацию в Instagram](#)



Публикация от Девон ориентал и кане корсо (@cats.and.corso) 24 Янв 2020 в 9:51 PST

Original url:

<https://www.themoscowtimes.com/2020/01/28/im-not-baggage-russian-pets-unite-in-flashmob-after-cats-airplane-death-a69064>