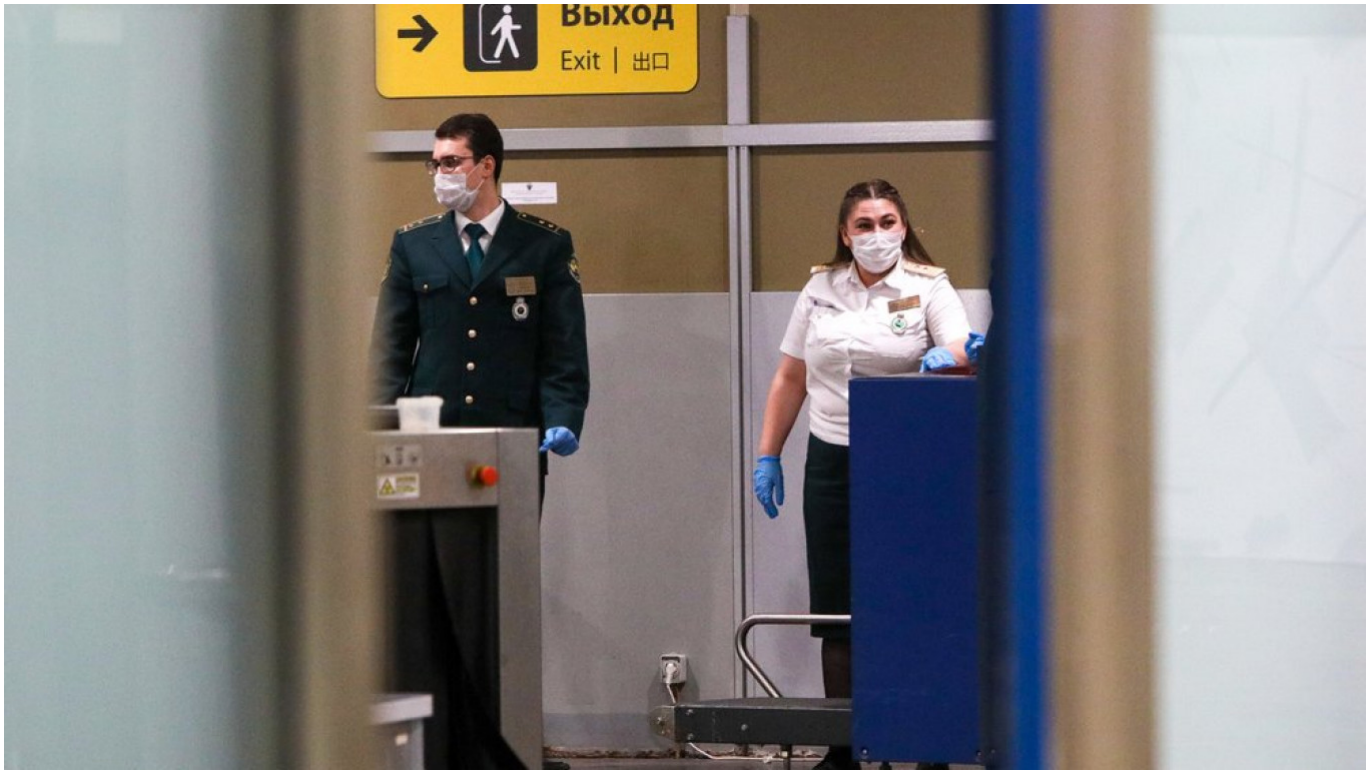
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INDEPENDENT NEWS FROM RUSSIA

Russia Shuts Land Borders to Poland, Norway to Foreigners – PM

By AFP

March 14, 2020



Andrey Nikerichev / Moskva News Agency

Russia will close its land borders with Poland and Norway to foreigners in a bid to limit the spread of the new coronavirus, Prime Minister Mikhail Mishustin said on Saturday.

The ban will come into force at midnight on Saturday and apply to all foreigners traveling "for professional, private, study or tourist reasons", he said.

He added that Belarusians, members of official delegations and residents of Russia would be excepted.

Russia has a short land border with Poland in the enclave of Kaliningrad and one with far north of Norway, which runs for about 200 kilometers.

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Moscow has counted around 45 cases of contamination with COVID-19, but no deaths so far, according to the latest official figures.

On Friday, Russia said it would reduce the number of flights to and from the European Union to stem the spread of the virus.

It has already closed its border with China and limited the number of arrivals from Iran and South Korea.

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