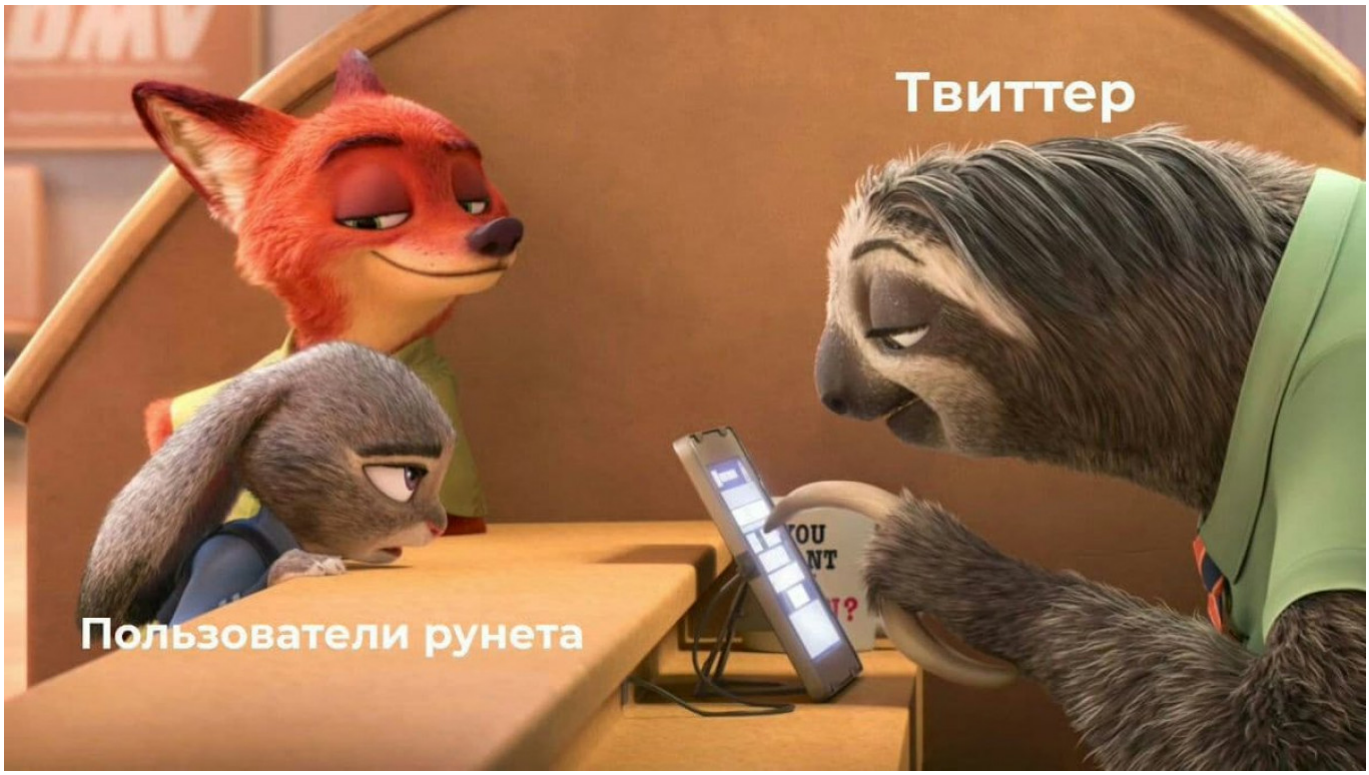
The Moscow Times
30 YEARS
INDEPENDENT NEWS FROM RUSSIA

Russia's Twitter Slowdown Gets the Meme Treatment

March 10, 2021

The Russian internet was flooded with memes once again after Russia's communications watchdog announced it will slow down Twitter within the country in an effort to force it to comply with requests to delete “illegal” content. Yet despite Roskomnadzor’s announcement, Twitter continued to work as normal on Wednesday — while many government websites briefly went dark. Here’s a look at the potentially precedent-setting news through the lens of memes:



Twitter

"Twitter after being slowed down."

Embed:

> Твиттер после того, как его замедлили pic.twitter.com/QfKZMKjEwm
>
> — Столото (@stoloto) March 10, 2021

Several memes attempted to capture the essence of internet karma, but this one came pretty close.

The first picture lists the government websites that went offline shortly after Roskomnadzor's announcement. The second one shows a soldier yelling at his partner that he's shooting in the wrong direction.

Embed:

> pic.twitter.com/fgTtTIvd3I
>
> — Никотинка с Бровями (@Yoghikitt) March 10, 2021

If slow Twitter is as lovable as the sloth from Zootopia, maybe this won't be so bad.

Embed:

> Russian Internet users
>
> Twitter pic.twitter.com/VhNfOx990H
>
> — Russian Memes United (@RussianMemesLtd) March 10, 2021

"Roskomnadzor slows down Twitter, but the block boomerangs back to them: Photo in color. #TwitterInRussia"

Embed:

> Роскомнадзор замедляет Твиттер, но блокировка отрикошетила в них, фото в цвете#Twitter_в_России pic.twitter.com/vWYD8uzoiq
>
> — Твитанутая, ок? (@DedSandvich) March 10, 2021

In a jab at the slow internet connectivity seen in Russia's small towns and remote regions, this tweet reads: "Roskomnadzor slows down Twitter speed in Russia so Russians who fall short of modern speeds can feel at home here."

Embed:

> Роскомнадзор замедлил скорость Twitter в России, чтобы неуспевающие за современными скоростями россияне могли чувствовать себя здесь, как дома pic.twitter.com/EOXOEBPhGi
>
> — Алексей Иванов (@MestnyiJitel) March 10, 2021

"Video-fact: Roskomnadzor slowing down Twitter."

Embed:

> Видеофакт: Роскомнадзор замедляет работу Твиттера ◙ pic.twitter.com/Guv1UC66DW
>
> — Вернем Все Взад ◙◙◙◙◙◙◙◙◙◙◙◙◙◙◙◙◙◙◙◙◙◙+25% (@USSRComeBack) March 10, 2021

"— What is this social network?

— This is Russian Twitter, 7 hours here equal 1 hour in real life."

Embed:

> - Что это за соцсеть?
> - Это twitter в России, 7 часов здесь равно 1 часу реальной жизни pic.twitter.com/v8TuJq7BVz
>
> — За все хорошее (@onepunchkek) March 10, 2021

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