

Libya to Probe Delayed Sputnik V Deliveries – Reports

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Russia has faced criticism from countries which have bought Sputnik V over heavily delayed deliveries of the vaccine. **Andre Penner / AP / TASS**

Libya has launched an official inquiry into delivery delays of Russia's Sputnik V vaccine, according to local media reports.

The war-torn country's UN-backed government announced it will launch an investigation into the hold-ups, which are significantly undermining the country's vaccination campaign, the Libyan Express [reported](#).

Libya received a first batch of Sputnik V vaccines in April, and subsequent deliveries in June and July. However, it is awaiting crucial second doses, with an order for 500,000 [outstanding](#).

The Russian Direct Investment Fund (RDIF), which funds Sputnik V's development and manages its export, did not respond to a request to comment on the situation.

Related article: [In Leaked Email to Russia, Argentinian Official Decries ‘Very Critical’ Sputnik V Shortages](#)

Sputnik V comprises two doses, each containing different formulations. While developers say this “vaccine cocktail” approach makes the adenovirus-based shot more effective, it makes manufacturing harder as producers need to have two completely isolated production zones to produce each shot and avoid cross-contamination. Firms manufacturing the vaccine have struggled to ramp up production of the second shot.

The investigation comes after Argentina also [warned](#) Russia it was in a “very critical” situation as it waited for the delivery of millions of outstanding second doses.

Sputnik V’s first dose — which has also been given authorization in Russia and is being marketed as Sputnik Light — is also effective against the coronavirus, the vaccine’s developers say.

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