

4 Russians Detained in Turkey on Military Espionage Charges

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Julia Volk / pexels

Four Russians, one Ukrainian and one Uzbek citizen were allegedly detained in Turkey on suspicion of preparing armed attacks against Chechen dissidents, Reuters <u>reported</u>, citing Turkish broadcaster TRT Haber on Thursday.

Turkish Foreign Ministry spokesman Tanju Bilgich <u>told</u> the state-run RIA Novosti news agency that he has no information regarding the arrest of four Russian citizens allegedly accused of espionage.

"I do not know anything about this. If I find out, I will answer you," Bilgich told RIA Novosti.

According to local reports quoted by Reuters, the Istanbul Prosecutor General's Office detained six suspects on Oct. 8 while they were allegedly preparing a joint operation against Chechen dissidents in Turkey. They had already acquired weapons, the local broadcaster said.

Currently, the suspects are being held in detention and may face up to 15-20 years in prison

on charges of "political and military espionage," TRT Haber said, citing state-owned Anadolu news agency.

President Vladimir Putin's spokesman Dmitry Peskov told journalists on Thursday that the Kremlin has no information about the detention of Russians in Turkey.

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