

Russian Couple Detained for Allegedly Spying on Defense Enterprise

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Press Service of the Federal Security Service of the Sverdlovsk Region

Russia's Federal Security Service (FSB) has detained a married couple in the country's tank manufacturing hub on suspicion of sharing details of a defense enterprise with Ukraine, state media [reported](#) Tuesday.

Video of the detention in the industrial Ural Mountains city of Nizhny Tagil [posted](#) by the TASS news agency showed agents in military uniforms forcing a man to the ground and then handcuffing him outside an apartment building.

The man is then taken into an apartment, where the video cuts to an interrogation of a couple.

The FSB claimed that the unnamed woman had admitted to selling blueprints of an unidentified Nizhny Tagil defense enterprise to Ukraine's intelligence agencies for 100,000 rubles (\$1,200).

Related article: [FSB Arrests Russian Factory Director Accused of Spying for Ukraine](https://www.themoscowtimes.com/2023/04/05/russian-couple-detained-for-allegedly-spying-on-defense-enterprise-a80717)

The blueprints could be “used against the Russian Armed Forces during the special military operation,” the press office of the FSB’s Sverdlovsk region department said in a video shared by TASS.

The FSB said that “items used in espionage activity” had been discovered during a search of the unnamed couple’s apartment.

A court placed the couple in pre-trial detention on charges of treason.

Treason carries a maximum penalty of 20 years in prison under Russian law.

The Nizhny Tagil couple’s detention follows a slew of treason cases amid a sweeping crackdown on Russians accused of publicly opposing their country’s invasion of Ukraine.

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