

Ukrainian 'Spy' Sentenced to 16 Years for Pursuing Small Arms Secrets

May 23, 2023



Andrei Petkevich **Russian Federal Security Service**

A Russian court has sentenced a Ukrainian citizen to 16 years in prison on charges of espionage, Russia's Federal Security Service (FSB) [said](#) Tuesday.

Andriy Petkevich, 43, was accused of seeking out secret information about small arms development in the Tula region, a hub for Russia's defense industry, at the instruction of Ukraine's intelligence services.

He was detained in Tula in 2021, before Russia launched its full-scale invasion of Ukraine.

FSB footage [shared](#) by state-run media showed masked agents raiding an auto repair shop and detaining Petkevich.

The edited two-minute video clip showed officers closely examining a firearm during the searches.

The video also showed a Tula region judge reading out the verdict with Petkevich standing

inside a metal-bar defendant's cage.

The judge found Petkevich guilty of attempting to recruit as spies Russian defense industry employees with access to secrets and handed him a 16-year prison sentence, Interfax cited the FSB as saying.

It did not specify whether Petkevich pleaded guilty or not guilty.

Charges of espionage carry a prison sentence of between 10-20 years.

Petkevich's sentence has entered into force, the FSB said, meaning the defense team has exhausted the appeals process within Russia's legal system.

Original url:

<https://www.themoscowtimes.com/2023/05/23/ukrainian-spy-sentenced-to-16-years-for-pursuing-small-arms-secrets-a81240>