

Russia Launches 'Foreign Agent' Probe Into Yeltsin Center

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The Yeltsin Center in Yekaterinburg. [Vladislav Falshivomonetchik \(CC BY-SA 3.0\)](#)

Russia has launched a preliminary investigation into whether to designate former President Boris Yeltsin's history museum and cultural center as a "foreign agent," a senior Justice Ministry official [said](#) Thursday.

Deputy justice minister Oleg Sviridenko announced the probe into the Yeltsin Center during a session with federal lawmakers on Thursday, according to the state-run news agency TASS.

"I don't remember which of the deputies sent us such a request, but we are conducting an investigation," Sviridenko told the lower-house State Duma's commission that investigates foreign interference.

Founded by the Boris Yeltsin Presidential Center nonprofit in Russia's fourth-largest city of Yekaterinburg in 2015, the Yeltsin Center is billed as the country's only museum celebrating democracy and the freedoms of the 1990s.

