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INDEPENDENT NEWS FROM RUSSIA

In Photos: Russia Celebrates Anniversary of Unrecognized Annexations

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Russian authorities on Friday held celebrations marking one year since Moscow claimed to have annexed four regions of Ukraine. On Sept. 30, 2022, amid its full-scale invasion of Ukraine, Russia moved to annex Ukraine's Donetsk, Luhansk, Kherson and Zaporizhzhia regions following widely disputed referendums. To this day, Russian forces do not fully control any of the regions Moscow claims are its own. President Vladimir Putin signed a decree this week creating a new holiday, Reunification Day, to be celebrated every year on Sept. 30. Here is a look at the anniversary events in Russia as well as annexed Crimea and the occupied regions of Ukraine:



Alexander Shcherbak / TASS

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