

Russia Issues Arrest Warrant for Ex-Ukrainian Ambassador to Kazakhstan

March 04, 2024



Pyotr Vrublevsky. kazakhstan.mfa.gov.ua

Russia has issued an arrest warrant for the former Ukrainian ambassador to Kazakhstan, whose anti-Russian remarks [caused](#) a diplomatic row in 2022, state media [reported](#) Monday.

Pyotr Vrublevsky was charged with “inciting hatred or enmity” and “humiliation of human dignity,” according to the TASS news agency.

The case against him is linked to his 2022 interview with Kazakh blogger Dias Kuzairov, during which the then-ambassador said Ukrainian soldiers should “kill as many Russians as possible.”

“We are trying to kill as many of them as possible. The more Russians we kill now, the less our children will have to kill,” Vrublevsky said in the interview.

Related article: [Ukraine Recalls Ambassador to Kazakhstan After Row With Moscow](#)

Kazakh officials [called](#) Vrublevsky's remarks "incompatible with the activities of the ambassador of a foreign state" and sent him an official note of protest shortly after the interview aired in August 2022.

Vrublevsky was [recalled](#) from his post by Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelensky two months later.

Moscow had [summoned](#) Kazakhstan's ambassador to Russia to demand an official explanation for why Astana had not expelled Vrublevsky.

Russia added the former ambassador to Kazakhstan to its [list](#) of "terrorists and extremists" in February.

Upon extradition to Russia, Vrublevsky would be placed in pre-trial detention for two months, according to a court ruling cited by TASS.

If convicted, he could face up to six years in prison.

Original url:

<https://www.themoscowtimes.com/2024/03/04/russia-issues-arrest-warrant-for-ex-ukrainian-ambassador-to-kazakhstan-a84325>