

Rosobrnadzor Suspends License of Shaninka University

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Daria Kurnysheva / Shaninka / VK

Russia's state education watchdog on Monday suspended the license of Moscow's Higher School of Social and Economic Sciences, better known as Shaninka, effectively halting its ability to teach students, Russian media reported.

The suspension by Rosobrnadzor means the university is no longer authorized to provide instruction and must arrange for students, with their consent, to transfer to other institutions.

According to the business newspaper Kommersant, the license can [remain suspended](#) until a court determines whether the university has remedied the violations cited by officials. A full revocation would make reinstatement impossible.

The move follows Rosobrnadzor's decision last month to [strip accreditation](#) from several of Shaninka's degree programs after it accused the university of lacking core higher education programs and qualified teaching staff, reporting poor student performance on standardized

tests and failing to keep employee information on its website up to date.

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Rosobrnadzor first accused Shaninka of violations in November 2024, and since then, the university has been barred from admitting new students.

Shaninka has not publicly commented on the license suspension or the loss of accreditation for several of its programs. The university has appealed the admissions suspension in court.

In July, Shaninka rector Maria Sigova [told](#) students that she was not confident the university would win its legal battle against Rosobrnadzor and urged students to explore transfer options.

Founded in 1995 by British sociologist Theodore Shanin, Shaninka is considered one of Russia's leading humanities institutions and counts prominent figures like political analyst Ekaterina Shulmann and sociologist Grigory Yudin among its alumni.

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