

IMF Slashes Russia's 2026 Growth Forecast to 0.8%

January 19, 2026



Sergei Kiselev / Moskva News Agency

The International Monetary Fund on Monday [lowered](#) its forecast for Russia's economic growth to 0.8% in 2026 as it raised the global outlook to 3.3%.

Previously, the IMF forecast Russia's 2026 GDP growth at 1% before cutting it by 0.2% in the latest World Economic Outlook update.

The Washington-based institution's projection places Russia below both the emerging market average growth of 4.2% and that of advanced economies of 1.8% this year.

Russia's Central Bank has [projected](#) 2026 GDP growth between 0.5% and 1.5%. The Economic Development Ministry projected growth of 1.3%.

Related article: [Kremlin Envoy Dmitriev to Meet With Witkoff and Kushner at Davos – Reports](#)

The IMF [kept](#) Russia's 2025 growth estimate at 0.6%, a steep slowdown from the 4.3% GDP growth it recorded in 2024 amid surging defense spending. It projected Russia's GDP to grow 1% in 2027.

Globally, the IMF upgraded its 2026 growth forecast by 0.2 percentage points to 3.3% over a projected boost from AI investments.

The IMF estimates U.S. growth at 2.4% this year, 0.3 percentage points higher than predicted in October. In contrast, it expects euro area growth of 1.3% and a slower pace in Japan.

Most of the upward revision in global growth this time was accounted for by the United States and China, the IMF said.

AFP contributed reporting.

Original url:

<https://www.themoscowtimes.com/2026/01/19/imf-slashes-russias-2026-growth-forecast-to-08-a91718>