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# Moscow Summons Estonian Diplomat Over Border Closure

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The Estonian Embassy in Moscow. **Yekaterina Borisova (CC BY-SA 4.0)**

Russia's Foreign Ministry said Monday that it summoned Estonia's top diplomat in Moscow to protest the Baltic country's decision to close all border crossings with Russia starting next month.

Estonia announced last week that it would close its three road border crossings with Russia for at least six months beginning on Dec. 1 after Estonian security services said they foiled a Moscow-linked plot against a local drone manufacturer.

Russia, in response, has accused Estonia of erecting a "new Iron Curtain" and promised retaliatory measures.

The Foreign Ministry told Estonia's chargé d'affaires Marek Ühtegi that the "unfounded" accusations exposed Tallinn's "fierce Russophobia." The ministry warned that the planned border closure would backfire against Estonia and Europe more broadly.

“Closing the state border will primarily deliver another blow to the Estonian economy and will boomerang back on both Tallinn itself and its EU and NATO allies,” it said in a statement.

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The Foreign Ministry also accused Estonia of tacitly allowing Ukraine to use its airspace to launch drones against targets in northwestern Russia.

“The Estonian diplomat was once again warned that such provocative and extremely dangerous actions bring the situation to the brink of an open war with Russia,” it said.

Estonia’s foreign ministry rejected the accusations on Monday, saying it has never allowed its territory to be used for military operations by another country.

Russia also accused Estonia of trying to obstruct Russian cargo vessels in the Baltic Sea, banning the transit of Russian and Belarusian grain, as well as persecuting Russian speakers and the Estonian Orthodox Church.

The Russian Foreign Ministry warned that Tallinn’s “unfounded policy of cultivating comprehensive hostility” toward Russia “will continue to destabilize the region.”

“Russia reserves the right to take comprehensive political and diplomatic measures aimed at protecting Russia’s national interests and the legitimate rights of our citizens,” it said.

*Reuters contributed reporting.*

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