

Russian PM Signs Decree on Economic Sanctions Against Turkey

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"Russian Prime Minister Dmitry Medvedev signed a decree on the measures to implement the Decree of the President of Russia 'On measures to ensure national security of the Russian Federation from criminal and other illegal activities and the use of special economic measures against the Republic of Turkey'," the statement reads.

The resolution of the Cabinet of Ministers adopted on November 30 approves the list of agricultural products, raw materials and food originating from Turkey that will be prohibited from being imported to Russia beginning on January 1, 2016.



Payback Time: Russian Sanctions to 'Hurt Turkey Badly'

Russia will ban the import of a range of fruit and vegetables, as well as chicken and chicken products from Turkey, the Russian government said.

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The list of banned products includes tomatoes, onions, cucumbers, apples, grapes, apricots, as well as numerous citrus fruits, and salt.

Russia will also ban charter flights with Turkey from December 1, 2015, with the exception of flights returning Russians home from holidays, the Russian government's press service said.

"The Transport Ministry has been instructed to ban charter flights between Russia and Turkey from December 1, 2015, with the exception of special flights returning Russian tourists who are currently in Turkey," according to the statement.

The ministry was also instructed to strengthen security measures in regard to regular flights between the countries.

Furthermore, Moscow said it would suspend the work of the joint Russian-Turkish Intergovernmental Commission on Trade and Economic Cooperation.

The government also ordered to halt talks with the Turkish side on an intergovernmental deal on service trade and investments.

Tensions between Russia and Turkey sparked after a Turkish F-16 fighter jet shot down a Russian Su-24 bomber over Syrian territory on November 24. Ankara claimed that it downed the jet because it had violated Turkish airspace. Both the Russian General Staff and the Syrian Air Defense Command confirmed that the Russian jet never crossed into Turkish airspace.

On Saturday, Russian President Vladimir Putin signed a decree to increase national security and introduce <u>economic measures against Ankara</u>. The measures ban or restrict the activities of Turkish organizations in Russia, as well as ban Russian employers from hiring Turkish citizens, effective from January 1, 2016.