

First Naturalized Russians Take New Oath of Allegiance

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Alexander Ryumin / ITAR-TASS

The first group of naturalized Russian citizens have <u>taken</u> a new obligatory oath of allegiance before receiving their passports this week.

A new law requiring naturalized Russians to recite an oath of allegiance, which President Vladimir Putin signed over the summer, took effect on Sept. 1. The new citizens are required to <u>pledge</u> respect for Russia's culture, history and tradition.

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A presidential decree published on the Russian government's online legal information portal on Monday lists 62 adult nationals of former Soviet republics and Afghanistan who took the mandated oath.

The decree states that citizenship is automatically granted to the new Russian citizens'

children under the age of 18.

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