Russian U.K. Envoy Denies Kremlin Tried Hack Computers and Murder Ex-Spy

By [Reuters](#)

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Alexander Yakovenko (Mikhail Metsel / TASS)

Russia's ambassador to London denied on Friday that spies from his country's military intelligence agency had tried to kill former double agent Sergei Skripal and hack various organizations across the world.

Ambassador Alexander Yakovenko told reporters relations were at a low because the British government was trying to carry out a campaign aimed at discrediting Russia.

When asked directly whether he accepted the British accusation that agents from Russia's GRU military intelligence agency had tried to kill Skripal in March, Yakovenko said: "No we don't accept that."

Related article: [Britain Accuses Russia's GRU Military Intelligence of Global Cyber Attacks](#)

Asked whether the two men accused by Britain of trying to kill Skripal were GRU agents, he refused to answer the question directly.

He denied accusations from Britain, the United States and the Netherlands that the GRU had hacked organizations across the world to undermine Western democracies.

"Of course I deny it because this is part of a general campaign launched in Britain and supported by the United States... to discredit my country," he said.