

# Russian Internet Explodes With Memes After Aeroflot Cracks Down on Fat Cat

November 15, 2019



## Instagram

An overweight Russian cat named Viktor captured the nation's heart after his owner snuck him onto a long-haul flight from Moscow to Vladivostok by [swapping](#) him with a smaller decoy cat during check-in.

But when Aeroflot caught wind of the news, they weren't so pleased — stripping owner Mikhail Galin of 370,000 bonus miles and canceling his account for bringing an animal 2 kilograms over its weight limit onto a plane.

In Russia, a country the highest percentage of cat owners on earth, the backlash toward Aeroflot was swift.

The country's meme-savvy social media users began churning out memes that poke fun at Aeroflot, paint the airline's competition as more cat-friendly and celebrate Viktor as a chunky hero of the people.

**Here are just some of our many favorites:**

"AirCat — Russian Airlines. Two kilograms is not a crime! #BroIsNotLuggage #ViktorFlies"

**Embed:**

кот Виктор и Аэрофлот (история в картинках) [pic.twitter.com/didjL5XqbB](https://pic.twitter.com/didjL5XqbB)

— Ирина☒ (@feodosiya16) [November 13, 2019](#)

A new idea for the Aeroflot logo — it's both minimalistic and elegant.

**Embed:**

«Я/Мы толстый кот», «Аэрокот, «Виктор, летай», «Бро не багаж».  
[pic.twitter.com/giVluPWGwf](https://pic.twitter.com/giVluPWGwf)

— Sakt (@Sakt59) [November 13, 2019](#)

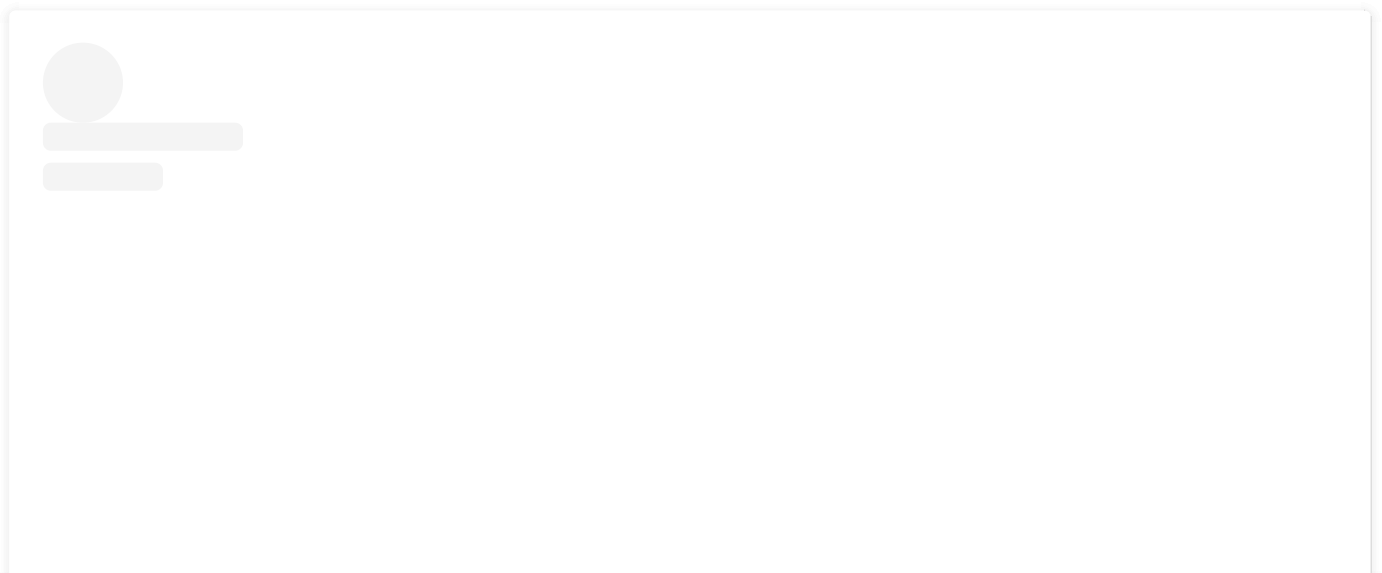
The Real Housewives of Aeroflot.

"S7 Airlines: Weight discounts for Siberian cats."

**International airlines also got involved.**

"Lufthansa: All cats are welcome since 1926!"

**Embed:**





[Посмотреть эту публикацию в Instagram](#)



Публикация от Darya Bukina (@darya\_bukina) 13 Ноя 2019 в 3:23 PST

Body positivity, British-style.

**Embed:**

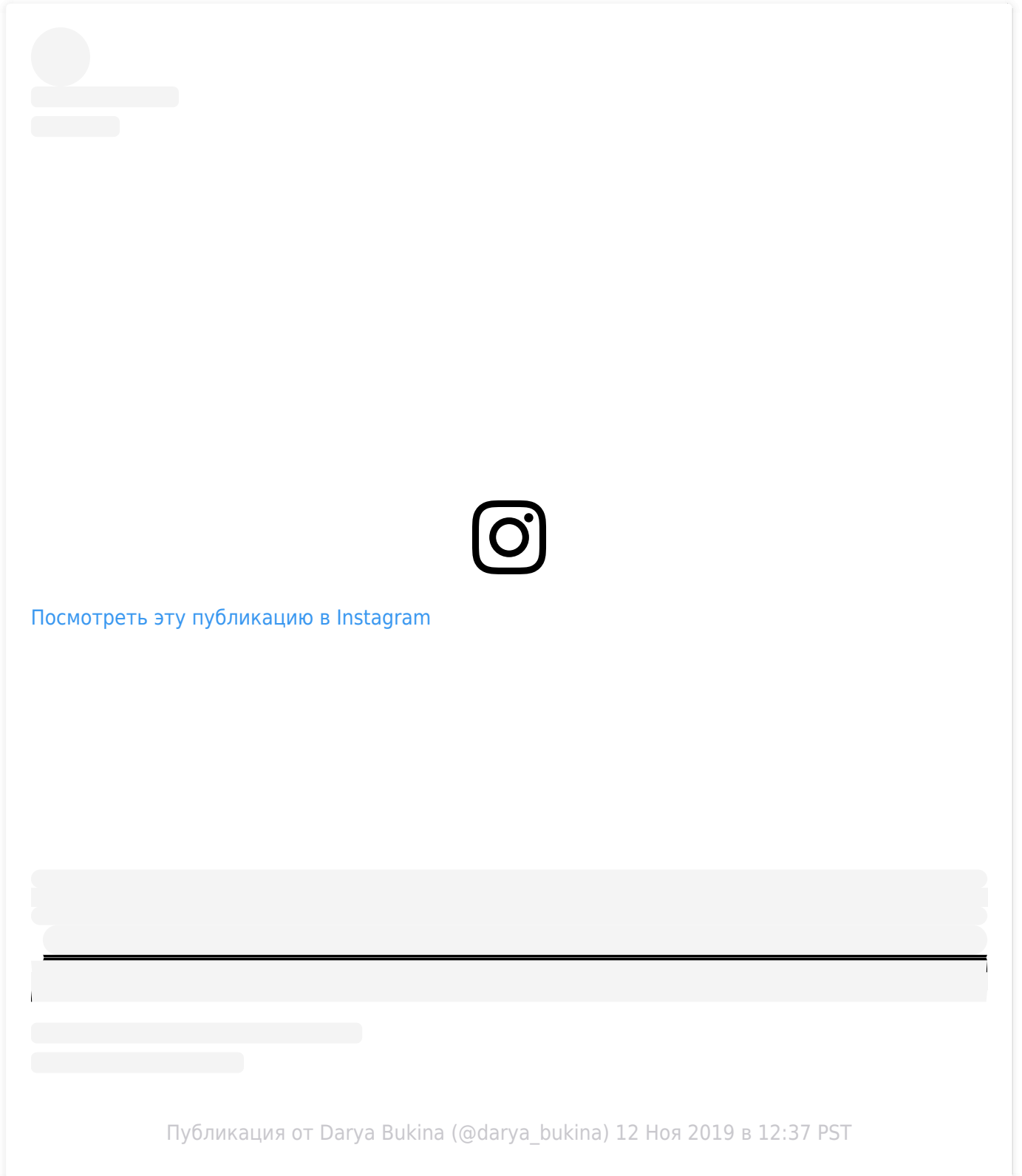
Лучшее [pic.twitter.com/GjzRJOFxZA](https://pic.twitter.com/GjzRJOFxZA)

— Здесь Шепелин (@ilya\_shepelin) [November 14, 2019](#)

All cats deserve business class flights...

...and not to be punished for 2 extra kilograms.

**Embed:**

An embed placeholder for an Instagram post. It features a grey profile picture and name in the top left, a large central Instagram camera icon, and a blue link text "Посмотреть эту публикацию в Instagram". Below the icon are several grey bars representing the post's content, a horizontal line, and more grey bars. At the bottom, it shows the post's origin: "Публикация от Darya Bukina (@darya\_bukina) 12 Ноя 2019 в 12:37 PST".

Посмотреть эту публикацию в Instagram

Публикация от Darya Bukina (@darya\_bukina) 12 Ноя 2019 в 12:37 PST

**Russian cats showed their solidarity with Viktor:**

"Shelya is standing for the protection of Viktor's owner and doesn't approve of Aeroflot's actions. #iwefatcat #aeroflot"

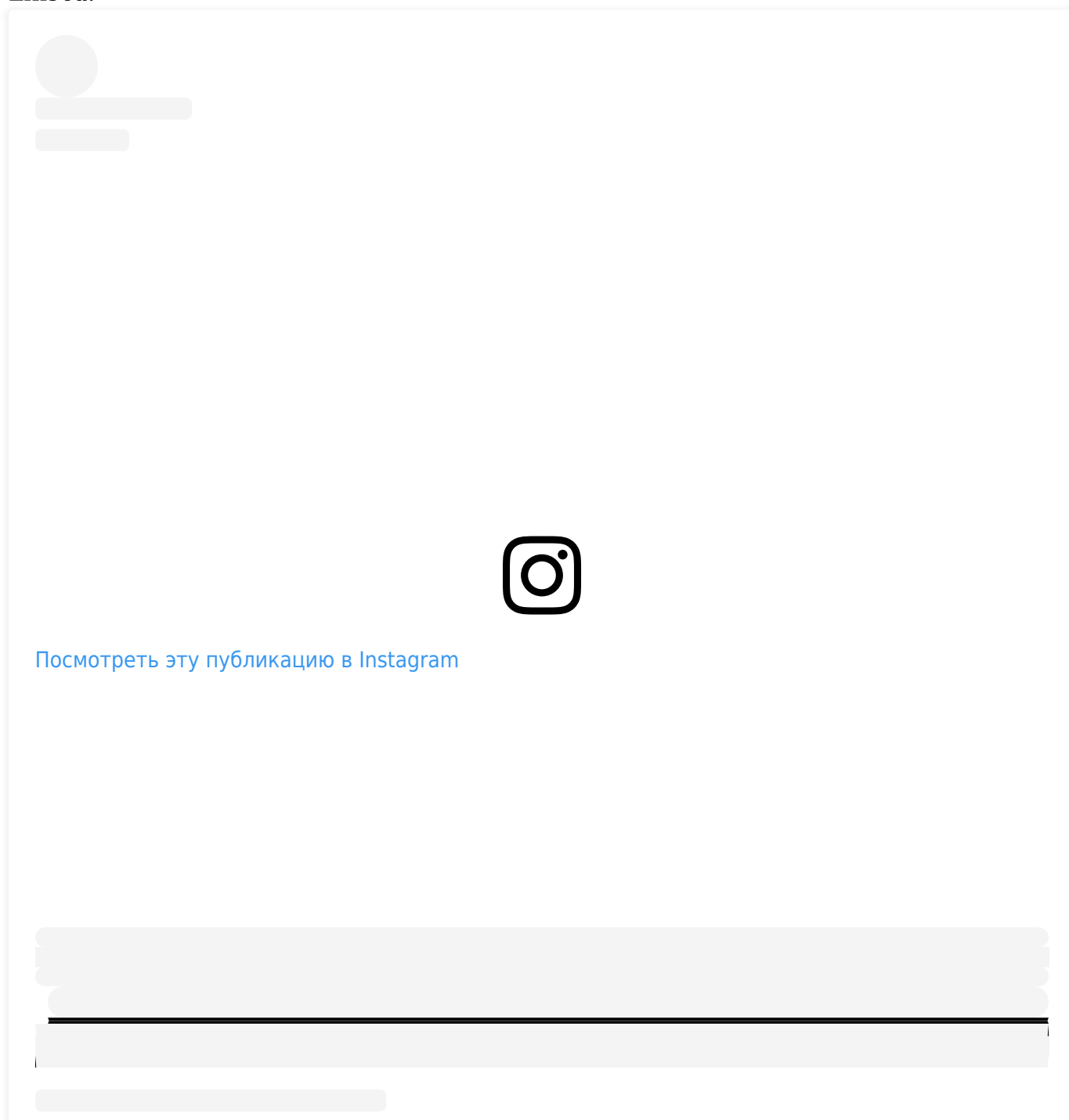
## Embed:

Шеля категорически выстурает в защиту хозяина кота Виктора, не одобряет действия Аэрофлота [#ямытолстыйкот](#) [#аэрофлот](#)  
[pic.twitter.com/d7VpTe0l2K](https://pic.twitter.com/d7VpTe0l2K)

— Сталина Гуревич (@1133488) [November 13, 2019](#)

"Boy, bring us some milk. We've passed the weight test."

## Embed:



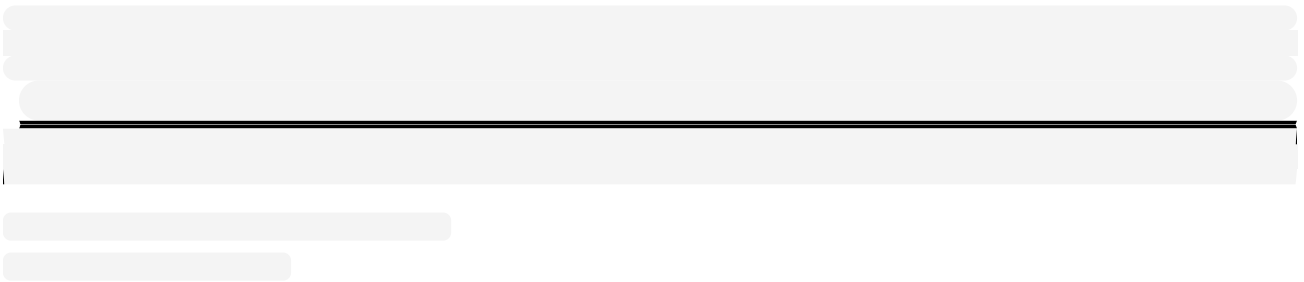
Публикация от Татьяна (@vtvnsk13) 14 Ноя 2019 в 11:53 PST

When there's no gravity, you don't need to worry about weight limits.

**Embed:**



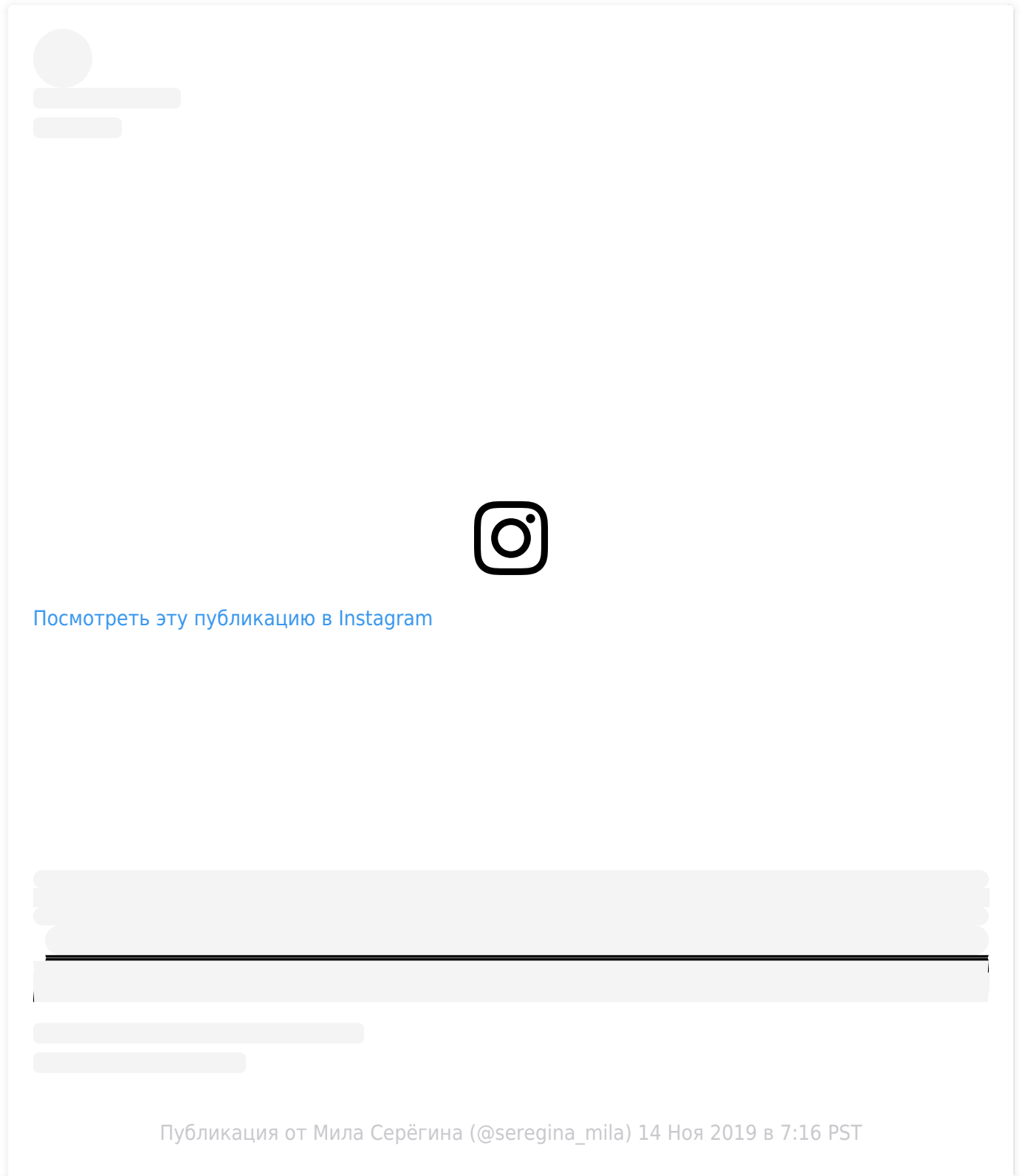
[Посмотреть эту публикацию в Instagram](#)



Публикация от Индилайт | Indilight (@indilight\_official) 14 Ноя 2019 в 6:36 PST

"All the cats of the world stood on scales, went on diets and lost their fur!"

Embed:



Посмотреть эту публикацию в Instagram

Публикация от Мила Серёгина (@seregina\_mila) 14 Ноя 2019 в 7:16 PST

Once he landed safely in Vladivostok, Viktor was treated to a private workout session with Russian hockey players, who helped him burn off those extra kilograms.

## Embed:

10-килограммовый кот Виктор летел из Риги во Владивосток не просто так: у него была персональная тренировка в [@hcadmiral](#) под руководством Николая Пронина. [pic.twitter.com/eZjoa2VT0N](https://pic.twitter.com/eZjoa2VT0N)

— КХЛ (@khl) [November 14, 2019](#)

Original url:

<https://www.themoscowtimes.com/2019/11/15/russian-internet-explodes-with-memes-after-aeroflot-cracks-down-on-fat-cat-a68184>