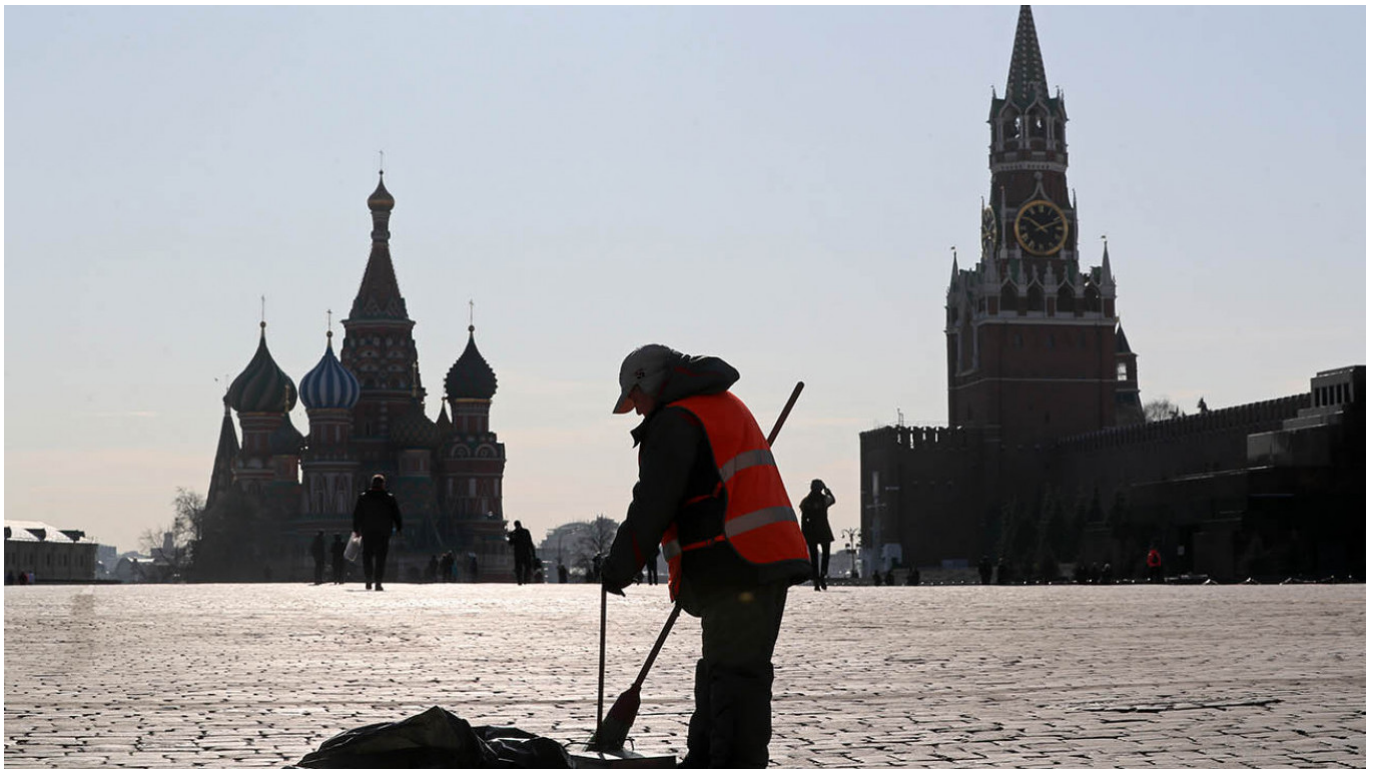


# Moscow Mayor Says Coronavirus Outbreak Has Entered New Phase

By [Reuters](#)

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**Alexander Shcherbak / TASS**

Moscow Mayor Sergei Sobyenin said on Sunday that the coronavirus outbreak had entered a new phase as the total number of cases in the Russian capital exceeded 1,000 with many Muscovites going out despite a plea to stay home.

Authorities in Moscow, Russia's worst-affected area, shut shops and entertainment venues from Saturday and urged Muscovites to stay at home during the non-working week announced by President Vladimir Putin.

But at least 52,000 people took walks in the city parks on Saturday, and many elderly people made long trips on the city's vast public transportation network, Sobyenin said on his website.

"The situation with the spread of coronavirus has entered a new phase. More than 1,000 cases

of the disease have already been recorded in Moscow. Nobody is insured," Sobyenin wrote.

"An example of miserable Italian and Spanish cities, even New York, where tens and hundreds of people die every day, is in front of everyone's eyes."

The official tally of confirmed cases in Russia rose by 270 in 24 hours, bringing the total to 1,534. Nine people have died of the coronavirus, seven of which in Moscow.

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