

French Supermarket Chain Auchan to Sell Russian Business – Reports

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An Auchan supermarket on Tverskaya street in Moscow. **Alexander Avilov / Moskva News Agency**

French retail giant Auchan is in “the final stage of negotiations” to sell its Russian subsidiary to local buyers after more than 20 years in the country, the business publication [La Lettre reported](#) Thursday, citing unnamed sources.

Auchan reportedly [narrowed](#) its options to two potential buyers after receiving 10 “unsolicited expressions of interest” over the past two years, according to [Le Figaro](#).

Auchan’s Russian subsidiary [dismissed](#) the reports, calling them “rumors” that have circulated for years.

However, if a sale does go through, Auchan would face a 60% discount and be required to pay a 35% fee to the Russian government after officials in Moscow recently [tightened](#) exit rules for foreign companies.

Shortly after the full-scale invasion of Ukraine, Auchan said it would maintain its operations

in Russia to continue supplying the country and supporting its local workforce, a decision that prompted calls for a boycott from Kyiv.

Auchan, owned by the Mulliez family, employs around 30,000 people and operates 230 stores across Russia.

Last year, Ukraine called Auchan a “full-fledged weapon of Russian aggression” following a media investigation that claimed the company supplied goods to the Russian military.

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