

Founder of Russian messaging app defies official ultimatum

June 23 2017

The founder of a Russian encrypted messaging app is defying the government's request to provide information about his company.

The head of the Russian communications regulator on Friday in an open letter to Telegram founder Pavel Durov threatened to block Telegram unless Durov hands over details about the app. The move would require Telegram, which prides itself on privacy, to keep and share users' chat histories and [encryption keys](#) with the [government](#).

Durov said in a post on his social media page Friday that the threat to block Telegram was "[sabotage](#) of state interests."

He says that if Telegram is banned in Russia, the private chats that Russian officials and their friends currently conduct via his messaging app will be conducted through apps that store their data abroad.

© 2017 The Associated Press. All rights reserved.

Citation: Founder of Russian messaging app defies official ultimatum (2017, June 23) retrieved 20 March 2024 from <https://phys.org/news/2017-06-founder-russian-messaging-app-defies.html>

<p>This document is subject to copyright. Apart from any fair dealing for the purpose of private study or research, no part may be reproduced without the written permission. The content is provided for information purposes only.</p>
--