

## Russian official threatens to block Google

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A Russian communications official has threatened to block Google in Russia unless it complies with a law banning certain websites.

The Russian government has been putting pressure on internet companies in what it has described as a campaign to block harmful



content. Russia adopted a law in September requiring search engines to comply with the state registry of banned websites and omit the banned content from <u>search results</u>.

While the registry does contain websites promoting <u>hate speech</u> and selfharm it also includes a plethora of websites blacklisted for explicitly political reasons, such as a Ukrainian news website.

Russian news agencies on Wednesday quoted deputy Communications Oversight Agency chief Vitaly Subbotin as saying that authorities may push for amendments that would let them block search engines like Google if they fail to comply with Russian law.

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