

U.S. Consulate General St. Petersburg, Russia
SECURITY MESSAGE FOR U.S. CITIZENS:
Bomb Threat in St. Petersburg
November 22, 2013

The U.S. Consulate in St. Petersburg informs U.S.-citizens of a bomb threat to a St. Petersburg shopping mall and movie theater that disrupted the November 21 opening night of the “Side By Side” LGBT film festival that was occurring at this location. Police and explosive ordinance disposal personnel conducted a search of the theater and adjacent shopping center but did not locate any explosive devices. The film festival will continue at various venues throughout the city until November 30. While the Consulate is not aware of any specific security threats directed against any of the festival’s remaining events, U.S. citizens should be aware of this incident and continue to be vigilant regarding their personal security.

The Consulate reminds U.S. citizens to avoid areas of demonstrations, and exercise caution if in the vicinity of any large gatherings, protests, or demonstrations. Review your personal security plans; remain aware of your surroundings, including local events; and monitor local news stations for updates. Maintain a high level of vigilance and take appropriate steps to enhance your personal security and follow instructions of local authorities.

We strongly recommend that U.S. citizens traveling to or residing in Russia enroll in the Department of State's Smart Traveler Enrollment Program (STEP) at <https://step.state.gov/step>. STEP enrollment gives you the latest security updates, and makes it easier for the U.S. embassy or nearest U.S. consulate to contact you in an emergency. If you don't have Internet access, enroll directly with the nearest U.S. embassy or consulate. Regularly monitor the State Department's website at <http://travel.state.gov>, where you can find current Travel Warnings, Travel Alerts, and the Worldwide Caution. Read the Country Specific Information for Russia at http://travel.state.gov/travel/cis_pa_tw/cis/cis_4965.html. For additional information, refer to "A Safe Trip Abroad" on the State Department's website.

Contact the U.S. embassy or consulate for up to date information on travel restrictions. You can also call 1-888-407-4747 toll free from within the United States and Canada, or 1-202-501-4444 from other countries. These numbers are available from 8:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m. Eastern Time, Monday through Friday (except U.S. federal holidays). Follow us on Twitter at <https://mobile.twitter.com/travelgov> and Facebook at <https://www.facebook.com/travelgov>, and download our free Smart Traveler iPhone App at <https://itunes.apple.com/us/app/smart-traveler/id442693988?mt=8> to have travel information at your fingertips.

The U.S. Consulate in St. Petersburg is located at 15 Furshatskaya Street and is open 9:00am – 17:30 pm, telephone 7-812-331-2600. Appointments are required for all non-emergency services. The American Citizen Services Unit at the Consulate General assists U.S. citizens in northwest Russia. We can help you with passport issuance and renewal, voter assistance, notarials, and registering a child born abroad. We also provide emergency services for U.S. citizens in case of a disaster or in case of illness, arrest, death or destitution while in northwest Russia. You may obtain additional information, and make appointments online, at our website: <http://stpetersburg.usconsulate.gov/>. You may contact our American Citizen Services Unit by e-mail at StPetersburgACS@state.gov, by fax at 7-812-331-2646 or by telephone at 7-812-331-2600. If you have an emergency after normal business hours, please call our telephone number and you will be given instruction on how to contact the Consulate Duty Officer.