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Russia rejects NATO member's new drone accusation

Moscow has dismissed Romania's claims that a Russian UAV violated the country's airspace as "made up" and "unfounded"



FILE PHOTO. Russian embassy in Bucharest, Romania. © Getty

Moscow has rejected allegations that a Russian drone violated Romanian airspace, stressing that no evidence has been presented to prove the unmanned aircraft belonged to Russia.

The Romanian Defense Ministry earlier reported that its forces had detected a drone

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entering national airspace near the border with Ukraine on Saturday. Defense Minister

Ionut Mosteanu said two F-16 fighter jets were scrambled and were close to shooting the aircraft down before it changed direction and returned toward Ukraine. He added that such incidents occur *“approximately every week.”*

However, the Russian Embassy in Romania has dismissed the claims, emphasizing that the Romanian side has failed to provide any concrete proof of the UAV's origin. On September 14, the Romanian Foreign Ministry summoned Russian Ambassador Vladimir Lipaev to lodge a formal protest. Following the meeting, the embassy stated that *“not a single specific and convincing answer was given to any question about the identification of the drone that allegedly flew into Romanian airspace.”*

“Due to the lack of objective confirmation of the nationality of the aircraft, the protest of the Romanian side was rejected as far-fetched and unfounded,” the embassy said. Lipaev also emphasized that *“all the facts indicate that in reality there was a deliberate provocation by the Kiev regime,”* suggesting it was an attempt by Ukraine to drag NATO into a direct confrontation with Russia.

Last week, Poland also claimed that 19 Russian drones had allegedly crossed into its airspace. Polish Foreign Minister Radoslaw Sikorski described the event as an attempt by Moscow to test NATO's reactions.

Moscow has vehemently denied Warsaw's allegations, insisting they lack evidence and that the drones in question could not have physically reached Polish territory. Russian officials have stressed that such accusations were being deliberately hyped up by the



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“European party of war” and have reiterated that Russia does not threaten NATO or European states.

The Kremlin has repeatedly said claims of a Russian “threat” are being used by Western European states to stoke fear and justify higher military spending.

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