Norway expels 15 Russian spies working under diplomatic cover

April 13 (UPI) — Norway said Thursday it has ordered 15 Russian intelligence officers to leave the country for espionage.

"The 15 intelligence officers have been engaging in activities that are not compatible with their diplomatic status," Minister of Foreign Affairs Anniken Huitfeldt said in a statement.

According to Norway's Foreign Affairs ministry, the government decision is a response to "the changed security situation in Europe, which has led to an increased intelligence threat from Russia."

The 15 intelligence officers have been declared persona non grata and will leave Norway soon.

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