Russia turns to Kazakhstan as it desperately tries to avoid a conscription that could infuriate the population

As Ukraine's punishing counteroffensive continues to take its toll on Russian forces, and desperate not to rouse a finnicky nation with another conscription, Russia has turned to Kazakhstan in search of soldiers, Reuters reported on Aug. 3.

Russia has launched an advertising campaign in its neighbor to the south to offer recruits a one-time payment of \$5,000 to anyone willing to sign a contract to join the occupying forces.

The advertisements have been seen all over the internet and appear to be specifically targeted towards residents of Kazakhstan. The ads depict both Russian and Kazakh flags alongside the slogan "Shoulder to Shoulder." They promise a one-time payment of 495,000 Russian rubles (\$5,300) to those who sign a contract with the Russian military, as well as a monthly salary of no less than 190,000 rubles (\$2,000) and undisclosed additional benefits.

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