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## **Snowden thanked everyone for support, but will stay in tranzit zone for now - Kucherena**



Photo: RIA Novosti

Edward Snowden won't leave Sherevetyevo's tranzit zone today since the paperwork is not ready yet said Anatoly Kucherena after a meeting with the whistleblower. Kucherena also claimed that a delay in asylum decision is caused by uniqueness of Snowden situation.

A decision on whether or not former CIA employee Edward Snowden will be granted temporary asylum has not been made so far, lawyer Anatoly Kucherena said after they had had a meeting. "I have to tell you that a decision has not been made," he told reporters in Sheremetyevo on Wednesday.

The asylum application of Snowden "is being processed," Kucherena said.

Kucherena has explained the delay in granting asylum to former CIA employee Edward Snowden by citing the uniqueness of his situation.

"This situation is unique for Russia and we must understand that. There have never been such cases or applications before. There is a certain procedure and the Federal Migration Service is obliged to comply with it," Kucherena said after he met with the US whistleblower in the transit zone of the Sheremetyevo airport.

"He is staying in the transit zone in accordance with the existent regulations. He is acting precisely within the regulations' framework," Kucherena added.

Earlier, it was claimed that Edward Snowden may work in Russia if he obtains temporary asylum.

Federal Migration Service website reported that "persons seeking refuge in Russia who obtain refugee status, political or temporary asylum, have an access to the domestic labor market. They may work without applying for a work permit."

The applicant is issued a certificate to confirm the processing of the asylum request. This document gives the applicant the right to stay in Russia during the request processing period.

Voice of Russia, Interfax