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## **RUSSIA BANS FRUIT AND VEG FROM KAZAKHSTAN AFTER COUNTRY REFUSES TO JOIN BRICS**

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Ketrin Johecová

Russian agriculture safety watchdog this week temporarily banned imports of tomatoes, peppers, fresh melons, wheat, flax seeds and lentils from Kazakhstan.

The decision was made due to the failure of competent authorities in Kazakhstan to take action and in order to ensure the phytosanitary safety of the territory of Russia, the Rosselkhoznadzor authority said on its website.

The restrictive measure comes shortly after Kazakhstan, Central Asias largest economy, refused to join BRICS, the bloc of emerging economies of which Russia currently holds the presidency.

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