

US Government Refuses to Accept Russia's Assessment that Sinai Metrojet Air Crash "Was An Act of Terror"

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US Department of State spokesperson Eric Toner said the United States has not accepted the Russian government's conclusion that the Metrojet crash in the Sinai Peninsula was a terrorist act and has yet to make its own conclusion.

The United States has not accepted the Russian government's conclusion that the Metrojet crash in the Sinai Peninsula was a terrorist act and has yet to make its own conclusion, US Department of State spokesperson Eric Toner said.

"In our view this is an Egyptian-led investigation and we have not made our own determination about the cause of this incident nor, do I believe has the Egyptian government," Toner said on Tuesday when asked whether Washington agreed with Russia about the cause of the crash.

However, Toner acknowledged that the US government "cannot rule out" the possibility that the October 31 crash, which killed all 224 passengers and crew on board, was caused by "terrorism and an explosion on board."

Once Egypt concludes its investigation, the United States will "weigh in" based on its own intelligence, Toner added.

On Tuesday, the official investigation into the crash concluded the airplane was downed as a result of a terrorist act. Russian President Vladimir Putin said during an official meeting on the investigation's conclusions the country will track down those responsible and punish them.

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