

## Campaigning and Debates

February 17, 2012

**The**  **Moscow Times**

### [Putin's Election Promises Could Cost \\$161Bln](#)

*28 February 2012*

By Howard Amos

Prime Minister Vladimir Putin is on course to win next weekend's presidential election, but at what cost? About \$161 billion, according to some estimates.

### [An Actress at the Center of a Political Firestorm](#)

*16 February 2012*

By John Freedman

The appearance of a campaign video for Vladimir Putin made by the beloved actress Chulpan Khamatova has shaken the cultural world to its core.

### [Putin's Campaign Manager Calls Liberals 'Filth of the Nation'](#)

*14 February 2012*

Vladimir Putin's campaign manager Stanislav Govorukhin quoted Soviet leader Vladimir Lenin in calling the liberal intelligentsia "the filth of the nation" in an interview published Monday

### [Putin Aide: Corruption Was 'Civilized'](#)

*13 February 2012*

By Natalya Krainova

Corruption in Russia was "normal" and "civilized" during Vladimir Putin's first stint as president and support for him has grown stronger as a result of recent opposition rallies, the prime minister's campaign manager has boasted.

### [Putin Stand-In Faces Zhirinovskiy Fire](#)

*08 February 2012*

By Jonathan Earle

In Tuesday's second presidential debate of the campaign season, firebrand Vladimir Zhirinovskiy harangued Prime Minister Vladimir Putin's levelheaded proxy over her patron's refusal to debate and alleged desire to rule for life.

### [Campaign Mudslinging Taken to New Lows](#)

*08 February 2012*

By Nikolaus von Twickel

If politics is a dirty business, then Russia is no exception.

### [Pro-Putin Song Is Web Hit](#)

*08 February 2012*

A schmaltzy music video hailing Prime Minister [Vladimir Putin](#) as Russia's savior became a hit on the Russian Internet on Tuesday, with many bloggers and YouTube users poking fun at the song's hyperbolic lyrics.

### [Putin Looks to Consolidate Working-Class Base](#)

*08 February 2012*

The Associated Press

A tightly choreographed appearance at a factory 630 kilometers northwest of Moscow got top billing on all three Kremlin-controlled TV networks — and points to Vladimir Putin's campaign strategy as he tries to recapture the presidency in March.

### [Putin Article Advocates 'True Democracy'](#)

*07 February 2012*

By Alexandra Odynova

Prime Minister [Vladimir Putin](#) published the fourth in a series of newspaper articles Monday, and in it, the odds-on favorite to win the presidency addresses the middle class and calls for "true democracy."

### [Campaign Begins With Testy Debate](#)

*07 February 2012*

By Jonathan Earle

Communist [Gennady Zyuganov](#) and businessman [Mikhail Prokhorov](#) kicked off the presidential campaign season on Monday with a testy TV debate that centered on Zyuganov's political accomplishments and Prokhorov's connection to the chaotic 1990s.

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