

# Flamboyant Russian Nationalist Throws Party in Parliament to Celebrate Trump Victory

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Nationalist politician Vladimir Zhininovsky, pictured in a 2012 campaign ad. [YouTube](#)

The flamboyant leader of the nationalist LDPR party, Vladimir Zhininovskiy, has thrown a party at Russia's State Duma on Wednesday to celebrate Donald Trump's win in the U.S. presidential election. Zhininovskiy organized a reception with champagne, and sweets, sausages and traditional Russian Olivier salad worth more than 100,000 rubles (\$1,560), the RBC news website reported.

Earlier on Wednesday, news that Republican billionaire Donald Trump would become next U.S. president was greeted by thunderous applause in Russia's State Duma, [Russian media have reported.](#)

## Embed:

Russian MP Zhirinovsky celebrating Trump's victory with champagne today in the State Duma (via [@ru\\_rbc](#)) [pic.twitter.com/pcxJtwKx2y](https://pic.twitter.com/pcxJtwKx2y)

— Ivan Nechepurenko (@INechepurenko) [November 9, 2016](#)

The businessman snatched victory from his Democrat opponent Hillary Clinton in the early hours of Wednesday morning in the United States, as Russia's lower house of parliament gathered for its morning session.

In his telegram to the new U.S. leader, Russian President Vladimir Putin wished Trump "every success" in his new role.

Putin also expressed his hopes that new administration would work to pull Russian-American relations out of their current crisis, the Kremlin's official website announced. The president said that he hoped Trump's appointment would "lead to constructive dialogue between Moscow and Washington based on equality and respect, benefiting not only the interests of their respective countries, but the world as a whole."

## Embed:

Vladimir Putin congratulated Donald Trump on his victory in the US presidential election <https://t.co/JgNJ6DYVLs>

— President of Russia (@KremlinRussia\_E) [November 9, 2016](#)

Putin went on to congratulate Trump for a second time at a reception with foreign ambassadors on Wednesday afternoon.

"During the campaign, we heard statements from Trump about restoring relationships between the United States and Russia. We understand and acknowledge that will be a difficult process, considering how far Russia-U.S. relations have deteriorated. As I have already repeated multiple times, that is not [Russia's] fault," Putin said.

The president stressed that Russia was ready and willing to "do its part" in a bid to restore ties. "Both the Russian and the American people could benefit," he said.

## Embed:

Putin: "This would serve the interest of the Russian and American peoples." Says



Exiled Russian oligarch Mikhail Khodorkovsky wrote on The Question website that Trump's victory was "fair." "Real elections are unpredictable. Trump's victory was fair. New policies will be unpredictable, so Putin's signature unpredictability will have a decent alternative," the billionaire wrote.

In his Twitter account, however, Khodorkovsky was more categorical. "Putin supporters wanted Trump. Here he is. I'm getting popcorn. First, sign off on oil prices plummeting. And remember Reagan," he wrote.

### Embed:

Embed: <https://t.co/Co2KEG11v0>

— (@mich261213) [November 9, 2016](#)

Yet not all politicians were optimistic that Trump's victory heralded a new golden age of Russian-American relations.

The head of the Duma's Committee for International Affairs, Leonid Slutskiy, warned that Trump's pre-election promises to mend ties with Moscow could soon be broken.

"[Trump] has said that the United States need to build a constructive relationship with Russia. Yet we have many examples when such pre-election promises have turned into negative policies towards Russia," he told the [Moskva news agency](#).

"It's possible that Trump was merely playing up to voters who did not agree with the harsh words of Clinton [towards Russia], Slutskiy said.

The Russian Orthodox Church also greeted the news with guarded optimism. "I do not think we should indulge in euphoria over the victory of the Republican candidate," church spokesman Metropolitan Ilarion of Volokolamsk told the [Interfax news agency](#).

"Time will tell how the president will be, whether he'll implement the promises made during the election campaign. But with his election there is hope that international relations will improve, and that we could see the creation of a single global coalition against terrorism."

### Embed:

Putin was informed when the result of the election was clear, but "he wasn't glued to the TV -- he's the president of Russia!", Peskov says

— Jack Farchy (@jfarchy) [November 9, 2016](#)

Russia's Foreign Minister Sergei Lavrov was concise. He promised that Moscow will “judge” the new president by his actions. “I can't say that all the previous leaders were predictable in every situation – it's part of life, part of politics. ... We've heard a lot of words, but we will judge [the new White House administration] by their actions, and respond with actions, too,” Lavrov told the state-run TASS news agency.

Russia “is ready to work with whoever is the president,” he said.

The longtime leader of Russia’s Communist party Gennady Zyuganov maintained that neither Trump, nor Clinton were "good" for Russia. “No matter who won there, it’s six of one, half a dozen of the other,” Zyuganov said at a press conference in the party headquarters. “The American strategy has remained the same for the past 200 years: expansion, asserting their priority and seizing the most important global resources," he said.

Margarita Simonyan, head of the state-funded RT TV channel, claimed that the Western political classes were simply out of step with ordinary people.

### Embed:

Embed code for the tweet by Margarita Simonyan. The code is a block of HTML and JavaScript that allows the tweet to be displayed on a website. It includes the user's name, the text of the tweet, and the date and time it was posted. The code is as follows:

— Margarita Simonyan (@M\_Simonyan) [November 9, 2016](#)

"[British political leader, Jeremy] Corbyn. Brexit. Trump. Does anyone still have any doubts? The world is sick of the establishment, and the lies it tells through its arrogant mainstream media," she said on Twitter. "People are tired of war. They're tired of the mass media. They're tired of aggressive liberalism. They're tired of immigrants. Whether it's good or bad, it's simply a fact."

Former Russian Finance Minister Alexei Kudrin also drew parallels with Brexit, calling Trump's election a "continuation of the same trend."

"The American elections have shown that the current dynamics of global processes are unsatisfactory," Kudrin wrote on Twitter on Wednesday. "But despite some of the



