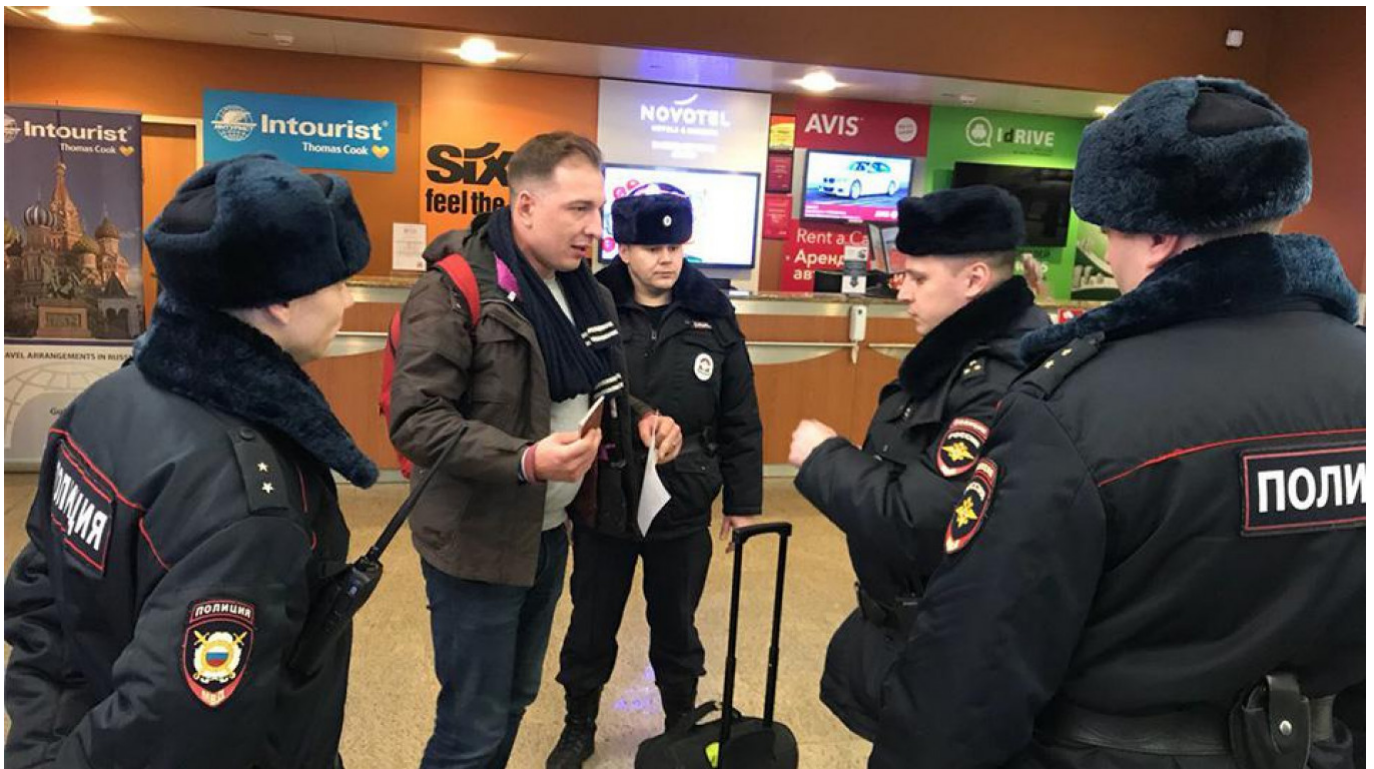


# Police Detain Director of Navalny's Anti-Corruption Foundation at Airport

February 20, 2018



Roman Rubanov / Twitter @rrubanov

The director of Alexei Navalny's Anti-Corruption Foundation has been detained at Moscow's Sheremetyevo Airport for organizing an anti-election rally in the run-up to Russia's presidential vote.

Navalny called on his supporters to boycott the March 18 presidential elections after his presidential bid was shut down by election officials late last year over a past fraud conviction. Since calling for the boycott, Navalny's aides have faced arrests across the country in a government crackdown against the initiative.

Roman Rubanov was detained in the airport early on Tuesday after passing customs and later charged with organizing an anti-election rally in Moscow on January 28.

Embed: <https://twitter.com/rrubanov/status/965720184614019073>

With less than 30 days remaining until Russia's elections, Navalny's campaign manager Leonid Volkov has warned that government pressure against activists is set to increase.

"[They] can lock up anyone that they want to lock up so that they'll miss the day of voting," he [wrote](#) in a Twitter post on Tuesday after Rubanov's arrest.

"They have charged him with organization of the rally on January 28," Volkov added.

Last month, two Navalny campaign aides were [arrested](#) after arriving at the airport in Moscow over the protest on Jan. 28.

Original url:

<https://www.themoscowtimes.com/2018/02/20/police-detain-director-navalnys-anti-corruption-foundation-airport-a60565>