

# Russian Opposition Politician Ilya Yashin Announces Bid For Moscow Mayor

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Ilya Yashin **Sergei Bobylev / TASS**

Russian opposition politician and Moscow municipal deputy Ilya Yashin has become the latest public figure to announce a run for the mayor's post later this year.

Mayor Sergei Sobyenin is expected to secure another 5-year term in the Moscow mayoral election on Sept. 9, promising to oversee reforms in health care, metro construction and a controversial urban renewal program beyond 2018.

**Link:**

<https://themoscowtimes.com/news/moscow-mayor-sobyenin-seeks-new-term-to-finish-reforms-59345>

“I’ve decided to run in the mayoral elections to stop Sobyenin and [ ruling party] United

Russia,” Yashin said in a recorded address [posted](#) on Wednesday.

“I don’t have administrative resources or oligarchs behind me, I only have your support,” he [tweeted](#).

Dmitry Gudkov, another liberal opposition member who [intended](#) to run as “the only democratic candidate” when announcing his 2018 mayoral bid early last year, criticized the announcement as serving the interests of opposition leader Alexei Navalny.

**Related article:** [Russian Opposition’s Dmitry Gudkov Announces Plan to Run For Moscow Mayor in 2018](#)

“No one should ask me about the democrats’ unity anymore [...] the first thought is always about how to sink the competition,” he [tweeted](#).

Navalny [welcomed](#) Yashin’s announcement and addressed Gudkov’s criticism by reiterating his earlier pledge to support “any candidate who wins the primaries” in a post on his website.

In his announcement, Yashin said he supported democratic primaries to put forward a single candidate from the opposition ahead of the Sept. 9 vote.

Original url:

<https://www.themoscowtimes.com/2018/04/11/russian-opposition-politician-ilya-yashin-announces-bid-for-moscow-mayor-a61127>