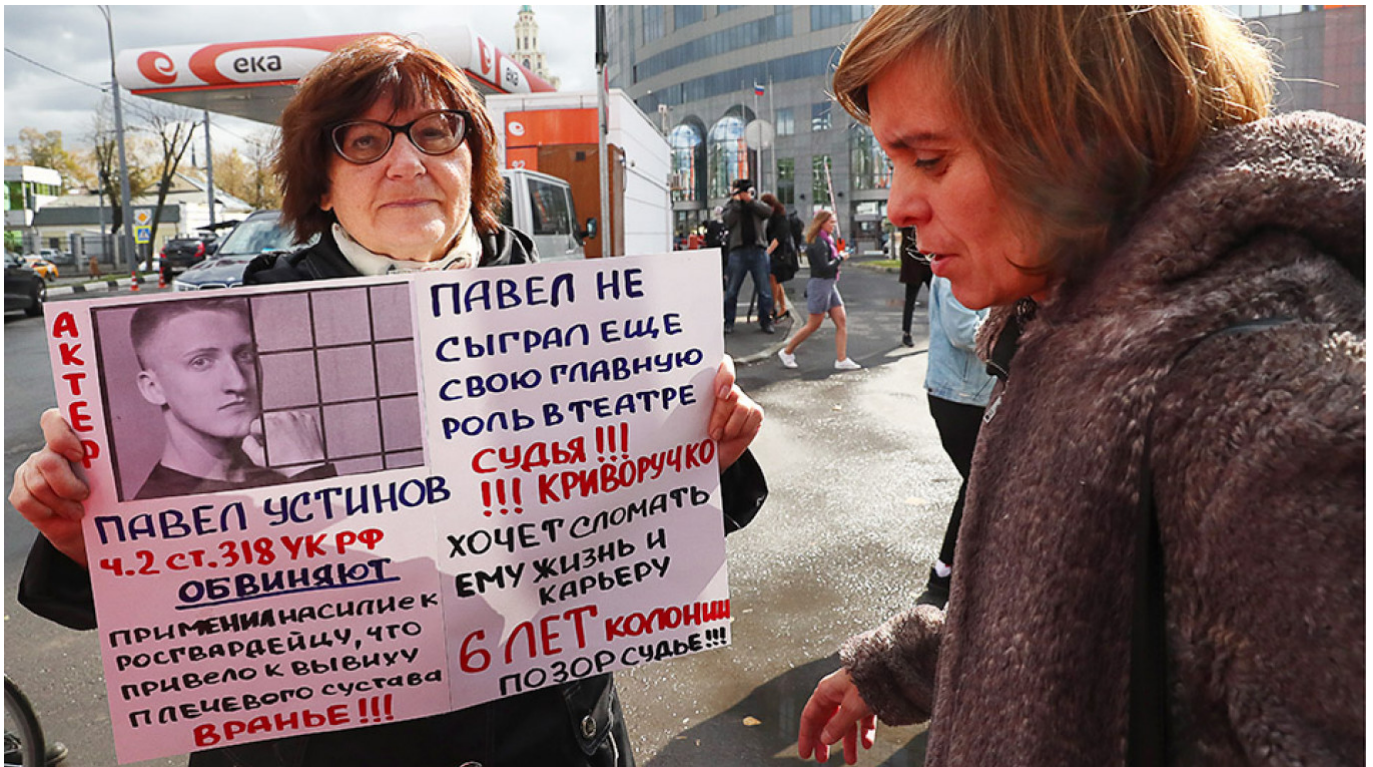


Russian Actors Launch Flashmob in Support of Colleague Jailed Over Moscow Protests

September 17, 2019



Sergei Fadeichev / TASS

Russian film and theater actors have staged an in-person and online campaign in support of a fellow actor who was jailed for using violence against a policeman during one of this summer's unauthorized election protests in Moscow.

A court [sentenced](#) Pavel Ustinov to three and a half years behind bars Monday for allegedly dislocating an officer's shoulder while resisting detention during protests on Aug. 3. Ustinov, 23, denied injuring anyone or taking part in the protest, saying he was waiting for a friend near a metro station when he was approached by police on Pushkin Square.

Embed:



[Посмотреть эту публикацию в Instagram](#)



Публикация от Ирина Горбачева (@irina_gorbacheva) 16 Сен 2019 в 7:59 PDT

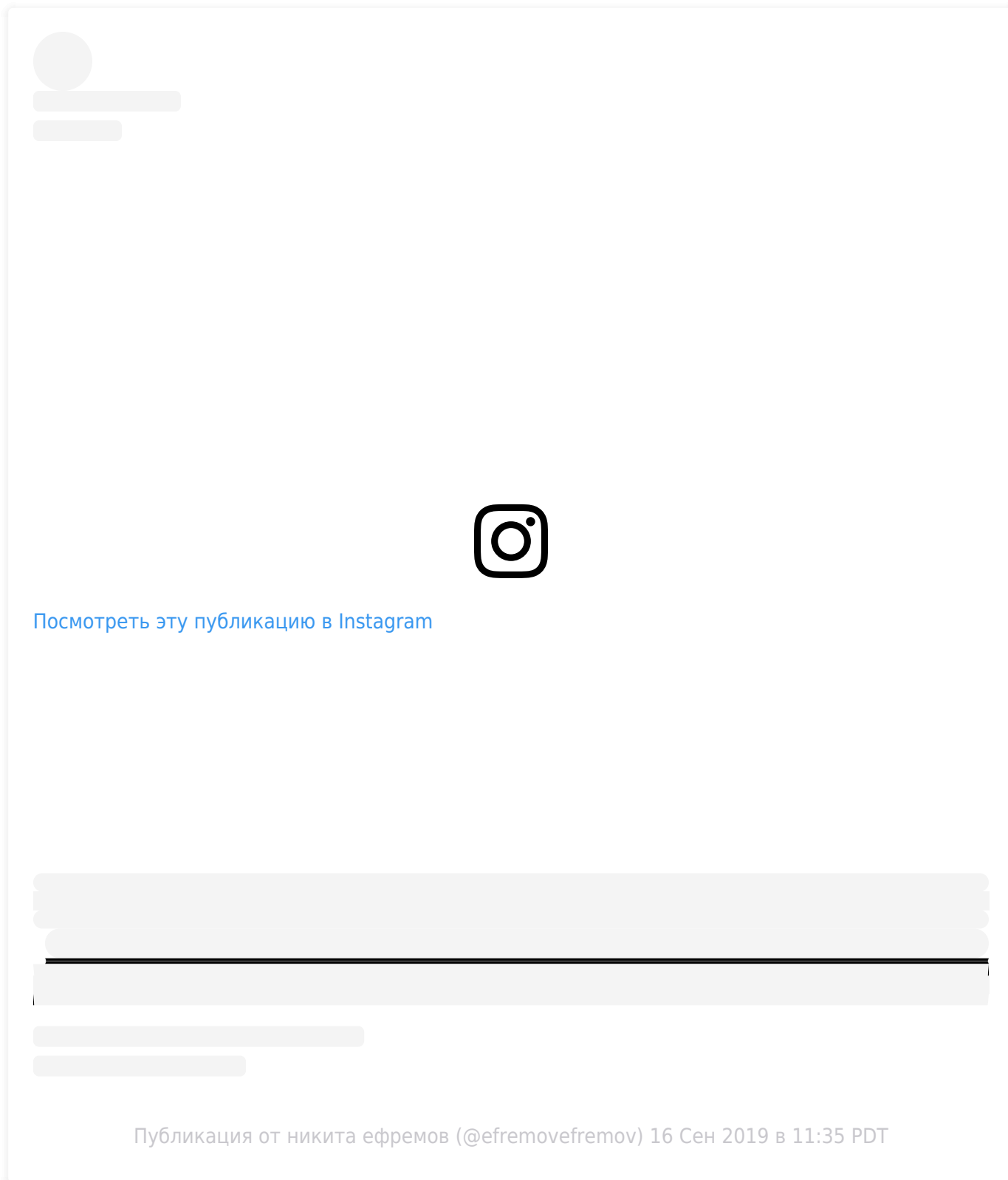
A number of Russian celebrities have followed actor Alexander Pal's [call to action](#), either uploading videos of themselves [expressing](#) support for Ustinov or posting images of the phrase "[I/We Are Pavel Ustinov](#)." The phrase borrowed from this summer's [campaign](#) in support of investigative journalist Ivan Golunov, who was jailed on drug trafficking charges but quickly released after the case drew mass public outrage.

"Journalists have stood up for Golunov, rappers have stood up for [Husky](#). Let's at least not keep silent during bows today, tomorrow and in the coming days," [said](#) Chekhov Moscow Art

Theater director Alexander Molochnikov.

More than 500,000 of the artists' combined 16 million Instagram followers have [watched](#) the video posts so far, the Open Media news website reported.

Embed:



Посмотреть эту публикацию в Instagram

Публикация от никита ефремов (@efremovefremov) 16 Сен 2019 в 11:35 PDT

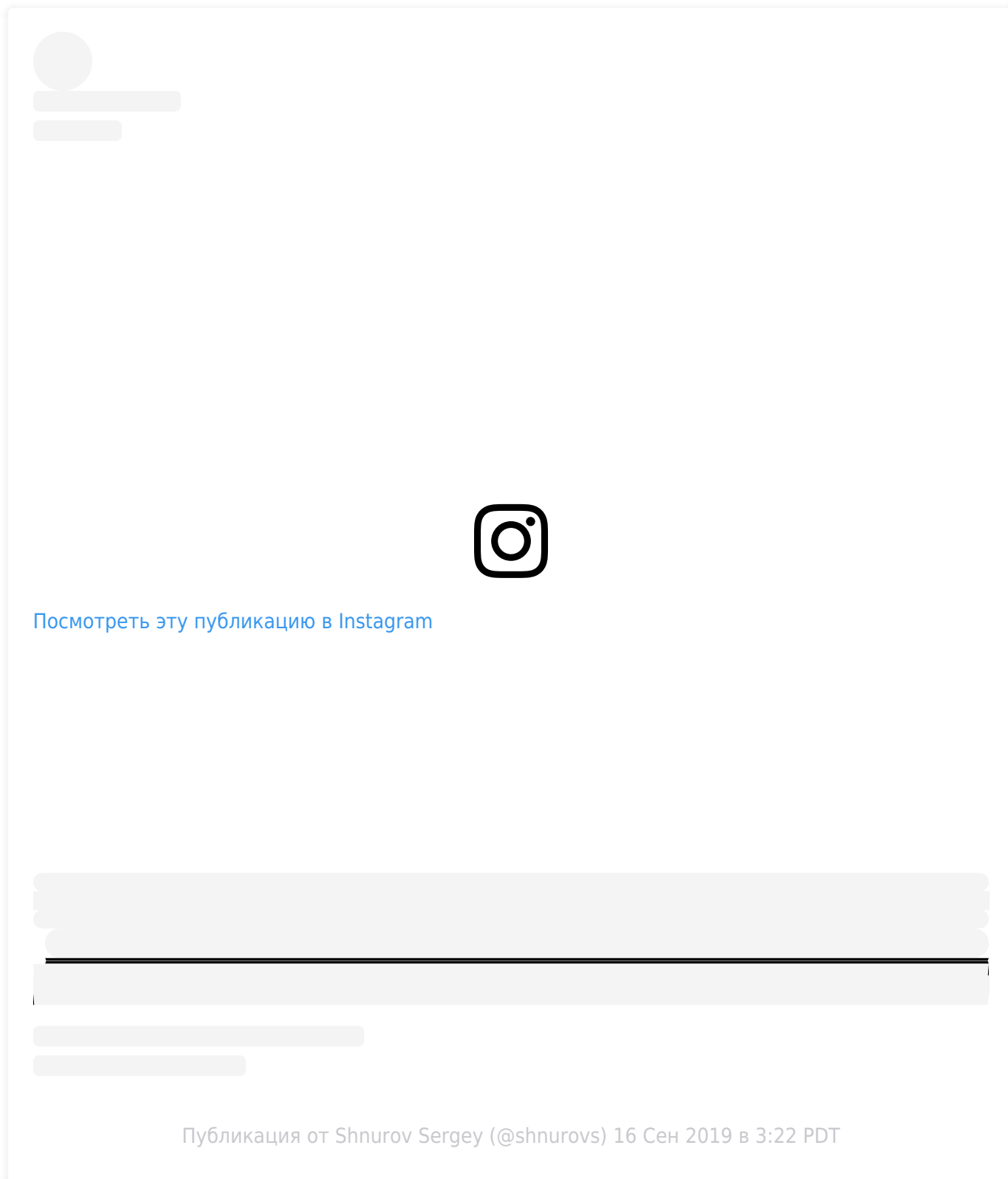
Four theater productions in Moscow on Monday evening [ended](#) their curtain calls with words

of support for Ustinov, who studied acting and played small roles in Russian films.

Celebrated actor Konstantin Raikin, whose [school](#) Ustinov had attended, called the verdict “a criminal injustice.”

“So I’ll fight, and not I alone, but our entire school will fight, with all our forces,” Raikin [told](#) Kommersant FM radio on Monday.

Embed:



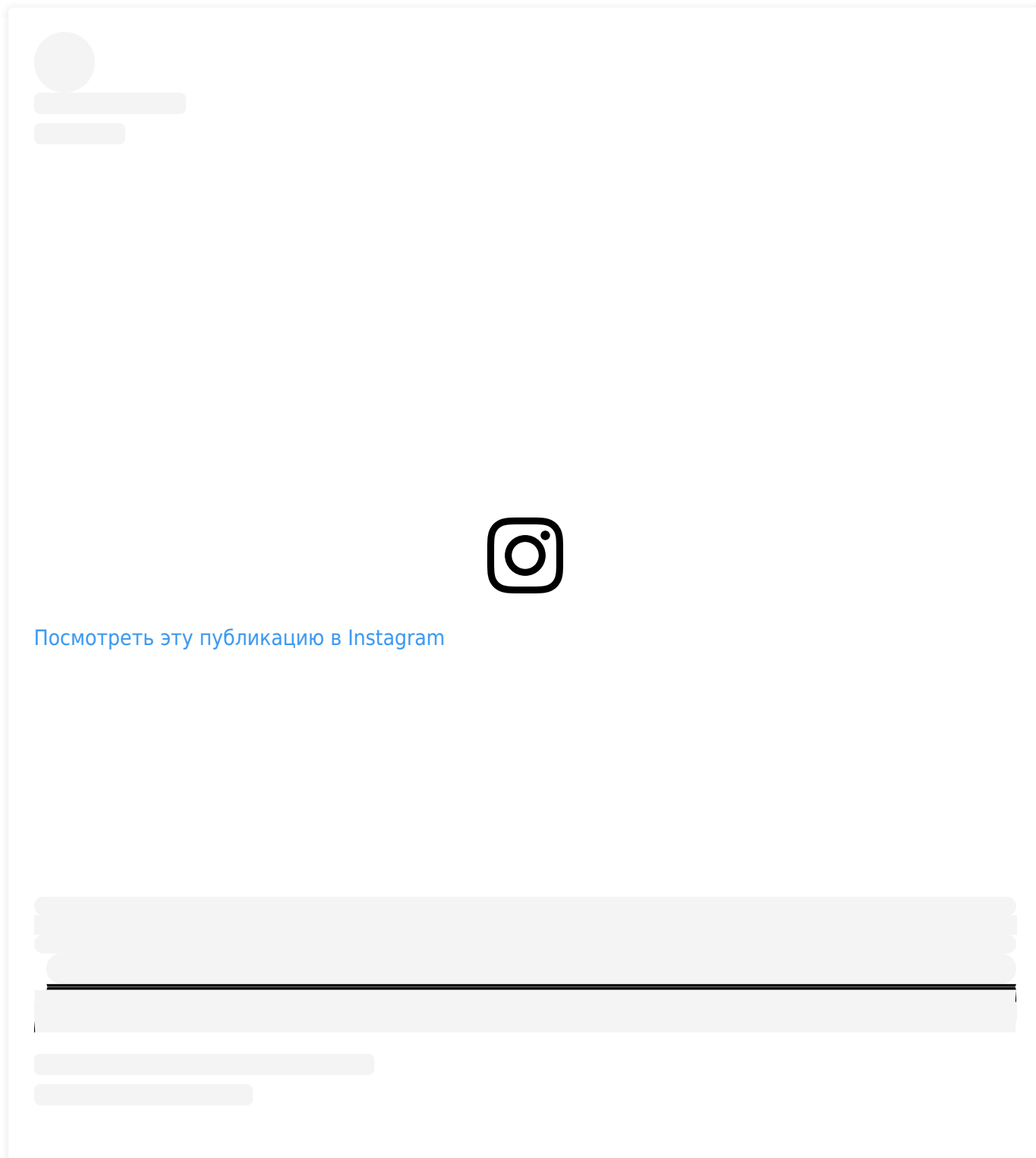
The image shows a placeholder for an Instagram post embed. It features a grey profile picture in the top left corner, followed by a grey bar representing the name and a shorter grey bar for the bio. In the center, there is the Instagram logo. Below the logo is a blue link that reads "Посмотреть эту публикацию в Instagram". At the bottom, there are several grey bars representing the post's content, a horizontal line, and more grey bars. At the very bottom, there is a caption in Russian: "Публикация от Shnurov Sergey (@shnurovs) 16 Сен 2019 в 3:22 PDT".

Ustinov became the sixth person to be convicted over demonstrations demanding that opposition candidates be allowed to take part in Moscow's Sept. 8 local election.

Election officials' refusal to register opposition candidates on technical grounds triggered the biggest sustained protest movement in Russia since 2011-2013, with up to 60,000 people rallying at one point.

Russia's ruling United Russia party, which supports President Vladimir Putin, lost a third of its seats in the Moscow city assembly in the vote, although it retained its majority.

Embed:



The embed area contains a placeholder for an Instagram post. It features a circular profile picture icon in the top left corner, followed by two horizontal bars representing the name and bio. In the center, there is the Instagram logo. Below the logo is a blue text link that reads "Посмотреть эту публикацию в Instagram". At the bottom of the embed, there are several horizontal bars representing the content of the post, including a large image area and a caption area.

Публикация от Юлия Пересильд Julia Peresild (@juliaperesild) 16 Сен 2019 в 1:53 PDT

Original url:

[https://www.themoscowtimes.com/2019/09/17/russian-actors-launch-flashmob-in-support-of-colleagu
e-jailed-over-moscow-protests-a67314](https://www.themoscowtimes.com/2019/09/17/russian-actors-launch-flashmob-in-support-of-colleagu-e-jailed-over-moscow-protests-a67314)