Svoboda Alliance AU&NZ



Non-for-profit organisations

Rallies and initiatives of pro-democratic Russians



- in support of Alexei Navalny and other leaders of opposition
- in support of political prisoners
- against election fraud and oppression of political opposition
- against the military aggression and occupation of Ukraine by the Russian army

Rallies in all major cities of Australia and New Zealand





We support other communities









Humanitarian aid for Ukraine



- Raising aid for volunteers in Ukraine and other countries (for refugees)
- Raising donations for specific cities (Kharkiv, Chernivtsi, Kyiv, Mykolaiv)
- Charity buy-and-sell projects
- Sharing info about various charity programs

The new flag



Pro-democratic and anti-militaristic Russians use white-blue-white flags to identify themselves

Already banned in Russia!



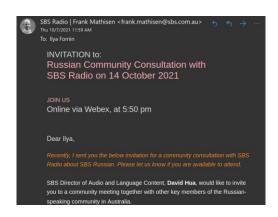
Russians around the world use this flag!

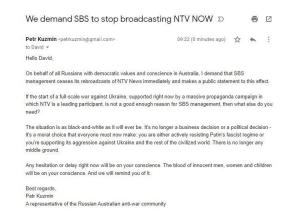


Fighting Kremlin propaganda

- A year-long struggle to stop the SBS from rebroadcasting a major Kremlin propaganda channel, NTV
- We participated in community consultations and sent the strong message that NTV should be banned from broadcasting for failing our community values
- Only after the war has begun, the SBS stopped their broadcast







Parliament run in 2021

- Statistical analysis shows, Putin's United Russia stole ~16% of votes in 2011, 2016, 2021 to hold the majority of seats
- A Russian senate representative claimed they have talked to all so-called Russian councils abroad about the "threats" from the Western countries
- A world-wide network of independent poll watchers, including three of us in Sydney
- Russians in many countries including Australia chose to follow the Alexei Navalny's Smart Voting strategy.



The Svoboda Alliance ensured there was no election fraud in Sydney. Putin's party didn't win.

Russians abroad want to unite

Our call to the Australian govt

- We called the govt to condemn the fraud during the elections
- We planned it to be the first step to impose sanctions against the Russian politicians
- In brief, the answer said that we asked to condemn the violation of voting rights in Russia, and they had already condemned the poisoning of Mr Alexei Navalny

Petition EN3459 - Condemn voting rights violations in the 2021 Russian Parliament elections

Petition Status

The petition has been **responded to** by the Minister responsible



Petition Reason

The Parliament elections in Russia on 17-19 September 2021 were held with significant violations of the democratic electoral processes. The access to information for the voters was limited by a continuing crackdown on opposition politicians, civil society organisations and independent media. The elections took place with thousands of well-documented cases of ballot box stuffing, falsification of vote count protocols and physical violence against independent election observers and poll workers. The outcome of 8 out of 15 races in Moscow was reversed in favour of pro-Kremlin candidates using an electronic

A new petition

- We call to the Australian govt to declare the Putin's pocket party –
 United Russia a terrorist organisation and freeze their assets
- The petition was published few days ago and is open for signatures

Petition EN4088 - Declare Putin's United Russia terrorist organisation and freeze their assets

Petition Status

The petition is currently open for signatures



Petition Reason

United Russia is a major Russian political party which backs Vladimir Putin and is responsible for legislative approval of numerous laws attacking freedom of speech and personal freedoms, free and fair electoral process, undermining rights of LGBTQ and national minorities and persecution of political opposition. The Party's members are involved in aggressive antiwestern rhetoric and responsible for legislative enactment of the military invasions of Ukraine and Georgia, as well as financial support of the Belarus authoritative leader Alexander Lukashenko and multiple far right groups and parties in other countries.

Key inputs from us

- Inform Russians about the real situation using non-banned media and social networks (VKontakte, Odnoklassniki)
 - Twitter, Facebook, Instagram, BBC, all independent Russian media are banned!
- Identification of pro-Kremlin activists and their links to the Kremlin
- Sharing confidential information about assets of the Putin's crew written in the names of proxy people in different countries
- Meetings with Australian politicians to discuss the possible actions
- Identification of appropriate targets for sanctions to force Russia to cease the fire and change the government

Why do Russians tolerate the govt?

- 6 800 000 Russians serve in the army, law enforcement, private security
- The size of the able-bodied population is 61 500 000 people
- <0.5% of court cases ended in acquittal





Why do Russians tolerate the govt?

- Long history of suppression of nongovt-led associations
- Suppression of independent economic activities, repressions against entrepreneurs and businesses not cooperating with the government
- No culture of public assemblies
- #52 Human Development Index
- #47 Good Country Index
- #117 World Giving Index no altruism!
- Extremely individualistic society
- Collectivism is not helping those weak but punishing those successful



The Novocherkassk massacre in 1962. 26 people were shot according to the official data

Why do Russians tolerate the govt?

- High level of militarisation in the society since childhood ruins family ties
- Effective anti-western propaganda machine. Without VPN nobody in Russia has access to independent sources of information.
- #150 Press Freedom Index In between 2000 and 2018, a journalist was killed every 2 months





To VPN or not to VPN

- During crysis, people without strong horizontal or family ties tend to unite around the govt
- They say, up to 70% of Russians support the "special operation"
- But another survey says, 95% refused to answer the questions about war
- Anyway, the "silent majority" is the main reason the war and repressions are continuing





How to recognise pro-Kremlin people?



V and Z letters, like on this car in Auckland



Small local media outlets with specific content



Initiatives run with the RARC and under the tricolour are highly likely to be pro-Kremlin

Russian Australian Representative Council
Совет Российских Соотечественников в Австралии



Aussie Cossack



Local activists like Simeon Boikov. This is his photo with Igor Girkin, a guy involved into MH17 downing

Effective sanction policy

- Sanctions should motivate individuals to act rather than call to class solidarity
- A peace treaty won't end the Kremlin's aggression and imperialistic ambitions. The Kremlin must fall.
- All assets and sources of income of the Kremlin elites including those from sales of oil and gas should be seized or reduced
- Only when the govt won't be able to finance the police and the army, the ruler will change
- We must ensure nobody escapes a trial and punishment if guilty

Key suggestions from us

- Russians associated with the Putin's regime should be banned from entry and having assets in democratic countries. The nationals of other countries helping them to hide their assets should be tried and prosecuted
- A pathway to political asylum for Russian and Belarusian activists if they have already been prosecuted or threatened for anti-war and prodemocratic position and may face a long prison term
- Careful targeting of pro-Kremlin activists and organisations abroad as Kremlin propaganda inside and outside Russia must not be able to use the "Russophobia" narrative

Don't be one step behind!

- Totalitarian govt doesn't start with anti-human mottos and wars, but it finishes with them. It happens when a political force decides their values and ideas are more important than the others' values. Like when they falsify the election results.
- Strict sanctions should had been imposed not later than 2011. The
 massive election fraud allowed the Putin's pocket party United Russia
 to get the majority of seats for the first time and facilitate the
 legislative repression and military machine
- We saw a major hesitation to impose strict sanctions since the invasion of Georgia in 2008 and of Ukraine in 2014. Does it align with the democratic values within the UN and the PACE? The Putin's govt used this hesitation to legitimate its actions.
- Long term strategic perspective instead of short term economic profit.

Svoboda Alliance AU&NZ

- Community organisations in NSW, Vic and SA with local representatives in WA, Qld and NZ
- We are networking with organisations and activists in the US, Canada, Europe to promote the pro-democratic and anti-Putin regime message across Russian-speaking communities. Many of us have been strongly opposing Putin's regime for over a decade.
- We organise rallies and protests in regard to oppression of political freedoms and government violence in Russia, coordinate donations to Russian independent media, facilitate humanitarian assistance and moral support to political prisoners and their families in Russia
- We work with Australian politicians to support the sanctions against the Putin's regime and his
 associates and launch the Federal Parliament petitions to address human rights violations and
 war crimes of Putin's regime. We bring community attention to agents of pro-Putin
 propaganda. We work on lists of candidates for the recently adopted Magnitsky act.
- We coordinate the Russian-speaking community effort in responding to Ukrainian refugee and military crisis via social media and directly collecting/sending the humanitarian aid