



CONGRESS OF PEOPLE'S DEPUTIES

Shadow Parliament
of the Russian Republic

WHAT IS CONGRESS

- Transitional Russian Parliament
 - Preparing key pieces of future legislation
 - To serve as real parliament after the regime change and until new legitimate legislative body is elected
- Established in November 2022 under the initiative of a dozen former Russian MPs
- Any democratically elected former or acting Russian official who signs under Fundamental Declaration of the Congress may join
- NOT a political party and/or movement: open for (and includes) political representatives of all parties and views
- Congress elects 11-membered Executive Council for day-to-day interaction with international governments and organizations

Congress of People's Deputies – the only Russian opposition group comprised of officials legitimately elected in internationally-recognized free-and-fair elections

MEMBERS OF THE CONGRESS

- Growing membership:
 - 59 members at the inaugural meeting
 - 76 members in February 2023
 - 93 members in June 2023
- Representatives from all levels of federal, regional and local government:
 - Equal representation of all levels
 - ~20% of Congress' members are in Russia, others are abroad
 - Several Congress members are still in the office
 - Representatives of five major parliamentary parties plus "non-systemic" political movements
- Approximately 6 million people voted for acting members of the Congress
 - "Normal" legitimacy of Russian Parliament is ~45 million votes. The largest opposition-run elections were ~120 thousand votes. The Congress is already similar in size to the largest opposition faction in Duma

LEGISLATION ALREADY PASSED



Final reading:

- **Transitional Constitution** – revision of the acting Russian Constitution with suspended political layout section and enhanced human rights part, inspired by U.S. Constitution
- **Resistance Movement Act** – supports any type of anti-Putin resistance which does not threaten civilians and lays within international conventions
- **Freedom of Speech Act** - regulates transition from the current censored, corrupt state of mass media, ensures media and Internet freedom in the future
- **Lustration Act** – defines approaches that will maintains civil peace in the future Russia while making sure that active supporters of Putinism will be prevented from coming back to power

Works in progress:

- **Act of Peace** – defines steps for demilitarization of Russia, deoccupation of Ukraine and other countries
- **Transition Period Act** – defines steps after the regime change to dismantle Putinism and to create democratic government
- **Self-governing Act** – municipal reform and local government regulations
- **Political Prisoners Act** – making political prisoners free
- **Amnesty Act** – criminal amnesty for minor offenses

PUBLIC STATEMENTS OF THE CONGRESS

- **Fundamental Declaration of the Congress** – rejection of Putin's Russian imperialism, call to stop the war against Ukraine, return the occupied territory of Russian neighbors, build the new democratic nation from the grassroots level
- **Appeal to the nations and governments of Rammstein coalition** – to recognize Congress and to start discussing post-war future of Russia and Europe
- **Appeal to the Russian opposition** – to forget the differences and unite to fight against the Putin's regime; to capitalize on the strength of each of the opposition groups and to coordinate efforts
- **Statement on Russian diaspora abroad** – call to give asylum and privileges only to those who are engaged in the resistance. Definition of three steps that Russians abroad should do (condemn the war; stop supporting Putin's regime; give support to Ukraine and the resistance)
- **Statement on European neighbors of Russia** – recognition and condemnation of crimes and imperialist actions of Russia in the past
- **Statement on state rehabilitation of Volga Germans** – condemnation of forceful removal of Germans from Soviet Russia and rehabilitation of this nation





LEGISLATION PLAN

- Draft of the new Constitution
- Economic Freedom Act
- Act on privatization
- Pension Reform Act
- Act on transitional judicial system
- Act on corruption prevention
- Education Reform Act
- Act on cultural renaissance
- Act on diaspora return
- Act on military reform
- Act on environment

DEMOCRATIC TRANSITION PLAN

- Abolition of the Russian Federation. Establishment of Russian Republic under the Transitional Constitution
- Appointment of the Transitional Government under Congress control
- Dissolution of security services, liberation of political prisoners
- Withdrawal from Ukraine
- Demobilization and downsizing the military
- Prohibition of the current political parties
- Lustration and opening of security forces archives
- Local government reform and local elections
- Negotiating new Constitution and the new federative structure with regions
- Referendum to establish the new Russia

First year

- Adoption of the new permanent Constitution
- Acknowledgement of independence of the regions that declined to join the new state
- Creation of new political parties
- National elections
- Formation of the new government and other branches of power

Second year

THE NEW CONSTITUTION

- Main source of inspiration – the U.S. Constitution and U.S. political system
- Restores balance of power between different branches:
 - Government reports to the Parliament
 - Judicial role is significantly elevated
- Rigorous system of checks and balances to prevent monopolization of power
- Many details of political system that in modern day Russia are within sub-constitutional legislation are elevated to the Constitutional level
- Constitutional provisions are written to be used by court directly
- Constitution is resilient against any possible changes, so that no individual or groups may change it without a national consensus



RECOGNITION OF THE CONGRESS

Executive Council of the Congress is in active interaction with foreign governments of:

- Ukraine
- Poland
- Baltic States

We are actively looking to establish a more permanent relationship with other Rammstein coalition nations and government institutions, including:

- United States
- United Kingdom
- Canada
- European Union / Council of Europe
- OSCE



APPENDIX I. BASIC PRINCIPLES OF FUTURE RUSSIA

FEDERALISM RESTORED

- Acknowledgement of existing regions' sovereign rights at the moment of regime change
- Regions are to create a federal center (like it in the US) and delegate it certain limited rights
 - All rights that were not delegated are preserved by the regions
 - Self-determination of the regions, including becoming independent, is guaranteed
- Regions that turn down the new Constitution become independent
- Decolonization process is enforced:
 - Tax system is revised to maximize the possibility of the regions to become financially self-sufficient
 - Tax revenues are balanced using natural resources royalty payments
- Maximum decentralization, so main powers go to the local communities:
 - No less than 50% of consolidated tax go to the municipal level
 - Political system is built bottom-up, starting from territorial self-governing
- The capital will be moved out of Moscow

POLITICAL SYSTEM

- Parliamentary republic (most likely without a position of the President)
 - Bicameral parliament forms the government and control the budget and appropriations
 - House of Representatives (300 members) is elected by party lists for 2 years
 - House of Regions is elected for 6 years in dual-mandate districts
 - Political parties are formed with a simple procedure; access to upper-level elections is given by winning the lower level
 - During the transition period, functions of the House of Representatives are performed by the Congress of People's Deputies; House of Regions – by modernized currently-existing State Council (governors of the regions)
- Local level voters – all legal residents, not just citizens
- Powerful judicial branch, which will effectively balance both executive and legislature branches
- Efficient human rights protection, including rights similar to the 2nd and 4th Amendments in US Constitution
- Local self-government and municipal system resembles Polish and Ukrainian models
- Clerical reform, church independent from the state, churches and temples should belong to local communities and be available for different confessions

FREEDOM OF SPEECH

- Nationalization of mass-media away from Putinist oligarchs and with future re-privatization during the transition period
- No state-owned media allowed after transition period
- Establishment of Freedom of Speech Endowment as blind foundation that finances media proportionally to their viewers/readers
- Powerful antitrust policy to prevent large corporations from creating mono- and oligopolies in the media market
- Support to ethnic-minority language media (Tatar, Buryat, Ukrainian, Hebrew, Chechen, etc.)

SECURITY SERVICES AND LAW ENFORCEMENT

- Dramatic reduction of armed forces personnel
- Law enforcement reform and cuts:
 - No more KGB-FSB, creation of compact counterintelligence
 - System of state prosecutors is merged with Dept. of Justice
 - Creation of local militia with elected sheriffs
- Judicial system:
 - Supreme Court like in US, jurisdiction includes Constitutional disputes and supervision of judicial system
 - Transition to elected federal judges
 - Enables trials by jury

FOREIGN POLICY

- Constitutionally-defined intention to join EU and NATO
- Two-keys policy with international structures (NATO?) on nuclear arsenal
- Eastern European alliance Ukraine-Poland-Baltic States-Belarus-Russia, as the new center of power inside EU
- Economic cooperation of Russia-Central Asia-Turkey-Ukraine as a trade bridge to Europe and balance to China
- UNSC reform

APPENDIX II.

KEY PERSONALITIES OF THE CONGRESS

Members of the Executive Council:

- **Natalia Alexandrovskaya** (fmr. Moscow City Council member)
- **Caesar** (Legion “Freedom of Russia”)
- **Andrei Illarionov** (fmr. National Economy Advisor, member of Coordination Council of Russian opposition)
- **Vasily Kriukov** (fmr. Deputy, Republic of Udmurtia)
- **Olga Kurnosova** (fmr. SPb City Council member)
- **Alexander Osovtsov** (fmr. State Duma member, Moscow City)
- **Ilya Ponomarev** (fmr. State Duma member, Novosibirsk region; Coordinator, Political Center in Kyiv)
- **Andrei Sidelnikov** (fmr. Chief Executive, “Liberal Russia” political party)
- **Petr Tsarkov** (fmr. Chairman, Moscow Municipal Assembly)
- **Dmitry Ushatsky** (fmr. Deputy, SPb region)
- **Alexei Vilents** (fmr. Member, Moscow Municipal Assembly)

Authorized representatives:

- Canada – **Kirill Lyagushev**
- Estonia – **Elena Istomina**
- EU – **Elena Lukyanova** and **Gennady Gudkov**
- France – **Mark Feygin**
- Germany – **Vladimir Papkov** and **Fedor Klimenko**
- Latvia – **Elena Lukyanova**
- Lithuania – **Vladimir Ponomarev**
- Poland – **Vladimir Ponomarev**
- United Kingdom – **Robert Amsterdam**
- United States - **Arkady Yankovskiy**
- Ukraine – **Ilya Ponomarev**

Chairman of the Expert Committee –
Elena Lukyanova

Special Representative to the International
Tribunal on War Crimes –
Mark Feygin

Special Envoy on Sanctions Policies –
Andrei Sidelnikov

KEY PERSONALITIES



CONGRESS OF PEOPLE'S DEPUTIES

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