Prominent Right-Wing Figures in Russia

Compiled by Christoph Laug

Kurginyan, Sergei Yervandovich (14 November 1949, Moscow)

Kurginyan’s views can be described as patriotic, Communist, and marked by conspiracy theories. Kurginyan assumes that Russia should adopt a distinct non-European path of development. This experience should enable Russia to offer the world an anti-Western alternative. He argues that Russia should distance itself from the idea of being part of European civilization.

Early years: Grew up in an intelligentsia family in Moscow.
1972: Graduated from the Moscow Institute of Geological Exploration with a focus on geophysics.
1984: Graduated from the Moscow Theater School “Boris Shchukin”, with a specialism on the direction of drama.
1986: The studio theater, which he created in 1967 as a student, receives official state status as an experimental theater
1989: President of the “Experimental Creative Center”, also known as Kurginyan Center.
1990: Runs for Deputy of the Congress of People’s Deputies of the RSFSR in a Moscow district. Kurginyan’s election manifesto includes a strategy for Russia’s national salvation, which is proclaimed to be necessary to avoid a collapse of the economy, society, and state.
From 1993: Publisher of the journal “Rossiya XXI”.
2011: Founder of the “Sut’ Vremeni” (Essence of Time) movement, which calls for a reinstitution of the Soviet Union. The name of the movement is taken from a television program in the second half of 2010, in which Kurginyan took part. After 2011: Following the protests against the voter frauds, the movement organizes several demonstrations against an “Orange Revolution”. After that, Kurginyan called for a USSR 2.
From 2012: Kurginyan and his movement have been protesting against the implementation of a criminal law relating to young offenders, as well as against the alleged liberal course of Medvedev’s government.
2013: Against the background of a ban on the adoption of Russian orphans by US citizens in February 2013, Kurginyan initiates the foundation of the “All-Russian Parents’ Resistance” movement. His wife, Mariya Mamikonyan, is appointed as its chairwoman. President Putin holds a speech at the initial foundation meeting.
Biographies: http://politmix.ru/content/biografiya-sergeya-kurginyana; http://dic.academic.ru/dic.nsf/ruwiki/1147039
Website of the movement “Essence of Time”: http://eot.su

Dugin, Aleksandr Gel’evich (7 January 1962, Moscow)

Dugin is considered one of the most influential national-patriotic spokesmen and ideologists of “Neo-Eurasianism”. 1979: Begins his studies at the Moscow Aviation Institute (MAI). In his second year, excluded from his studies for
falling behind; he himself believes his exclusion was due to his ideological non-conformity.  
1980: Introduction to the circle of an esoteric-occult secret society, which occasionally calls itself “Black Order of the SS”.  
1990: Co-founder of the “Arktogeya” historical-religious society, which becomes a central publisher of ultra-nationalist literature in post-Soviet Russia and of Dugin’s writings in particular.  
From 1991: Editor at “Den” (Day).  
From 1991: Publisher of the journal “Elementy”, which further contributes to the spread of Dugin’s writings.  
1993: Together with Eduard Limonov, Dugin co-founds the “National-Bolshevik Party” and becomes one of its ideological leaders and chairmen. In 1998, he leaves the NBP.  
2000: Foundation of the social-political movement “Eurasia”. In 2000, it is turned into a party; until 2003, Dugin holds the chair of the political council.  
2009: Founder and chairman of the “International Eurasian Movement”.  
From 2008: Professor at the Moscow State University (MGU), and manager of the Center for Conservative Studies at the sociological faculty of the MGU.  
From March 2012: Member of the Council of Experts advising the chairman of the State Duma, Sergej Naryshkin.  


Prokhanov, Aleksandr Andreevich (26 February 1938, Tiflis)  
Prokhanov is considered to be the spokesperson of the patriotic opposition.  
1960: Graduates from the Moscow Aviation Institute (MAI). In the final year of his studies, Prokhanov writes prose and poetry.  
From 1970: Works as a foreign correspondent for Pravda and Literaturnaya Gazeta, including in Afghanistan, Nicaragua, Cambodia, Angola and other places. Publishes many articles in these publications.  
From 1986: Publishes in the journal “Molodaya Gvardiya” (Young Guard).  
December 1990: Founder and editor-in-chief of the daily newspaper, “Den” (day). The newspaper develops into one of the most radical opposition papers against the policy of perestroika. Prokhanov supports the attempted coup in August 1991.  
September–October 1993: After President Boris Yeltsin has the Supreme Soviet dissolved by decree, the newspaper “Den” calls for support of the Supreme Soviet and accuses Boris Yeltsin of constitutional violations. The newspaper is banned by the Ministry of Justice in October 1993.  
Since November 1993: Publisher and editor-in-chief of the newspaper “Zavtra” (Tomorrow).  


Narochnitskaya, Nataliya Alekseevna (23 December 1948)  
Initiator of several national-conservative movements and organizations: “Vsemirnykh Russkikh Soborov” (Worldwide Russian Council), “Fond edinstva pravoslavnykh narodov” (Foundation for the Unity of Orthodox People), foundation “Russkii mir” (Russian World).  
Key publications: “Rossiya i Russkie v mirovoi istorii” (Russia and the Russians in World History—2005); “Za chto i s kem my voevali” (For what and with whom we fought—2005); “Russkii mir” (Russian World—2007); “Oranzhevy seti. Ot Belgrada do Bishkeka” (Orange Networks. From Belgrade to Bishkek—ed. 2008)  
Early years: Daughter of Aleksei Narochnitsky, a member of the Soviet Academy of the Sciences and author of groundbreaking works on the history of international relations.  
1971: Degree with distinction at the MGIMO (Moscow State Institute of International Relations, which belongs to the Foreign Ministry) with a focus on the US and Germany.  
1989–2003: Research assistant at the IMEMO.
2004: Founder and President of the “Foundation of Historical Perspectives” (FIP). Its tasks are defined as the re-institution of Russia’s intellectual and economic power, strengthening social cohesion, and an objective depiction of Russian history.
2009–2012: Member of the Committee Against Attempts to Falsify History in Order to Harm Russia at the Russian President’s office.


Rogozin, Dmitrii Olegovich (21 December 1963, Moscow)
1981–1986: Studied at International Department of the Faculty of Journalism, Moscow State University (MGU).
1986–1990 Worked at the Committee for Youth Organizations (KMO), of the USSR. Rose from a consultant to become the head of the department for International Organizations.
1990: President of the Association of Young Political Leaders in the USSR (Russia), also known as “Forum 90”.
1990–1993: First deputy head of the organization for research and education “RAU Corporation” of the Russian-American University
1991: Deputy Chairman of the Central Committee of the “Constitutional Democratic Party (Party of People’s Freedom)”
1992: Co-founder of the “Soyuz vozrozhdeniya Rossii” (Alliance for the Renaissance of Russia), a non-partisan structure that brings together Christian Democrats, conservatives, and right-wing Social Democrats.
1993: Founder and chairman of the patriotic movement “Kongress Russkikh Obshchin” (KRO) (Congress of Russian Communities) for the preservation of the Russian-speaking population in the former Union republics.
1997: Deputy in the State Duma for a constituency in the region of Voronezh, and serves as Deputy Chairman on the Committee for Nationalities’ Affairs.
1998–1999: Member of the central council of the group “Otechestvo” (Fatherland) founded by the former mayor of Moscow, Yuri Luzhkov.
1999: Re-elected to the State Duma, member of the delegates’ group “People’s Deputies” and Chairman of the Committee for International Affairs.
2001: Deputy-leader of the “Narodnaya Partiya Rossii” (People’s Party of the Russian Federation)
2002–2004: Presidential Special envoy for the Kaliningrad region in connection with EU expansion. No agreement was reached on visa-free transit between Russia and Kaliningrad.
2003: Co-chairman and campaign leader of the patriotic alliance in the election campaign “Rodina” (Homeland).
2006: Chairman of the now renamed “Rodina. Kongress Russkikh Obshchin”.
2003: Re-elected to State Duma.
2006: Member of the organizational committee of the nationalist “Russian March”.
2008–2011: Permanent Representative to NATO. Until 2012, special representative of the Russian president for collaboration with NATO regarding missile defense.
2012: Deput Prime Minister. In Medvedev’s government, he is responsible for the military-industrial complex, as well as for the nuclear and space sector.

From March 2012: Special presidential representative in Transdniestr.


Dzhemal’, Geidar Dzhakhidovich (6 November 1947, Moscow)
1965: Begins studies at the Institute for Eastern Languages, Moscow State University.
1980s: Extended sojourns in Tajikistan, where he developed connections to local Muslim underground forces.
1988–1989: Joined central council of the ultra-nationalist movement “Pamyat” (Memory), but withdrew from the organization a year later.
1990: Deputy Chairman of the “Islamic Party of Renewal” in Astrakhan.
1991–1993: Publisher of the newspaper “Al’-Vakhdat” (Unity)
1993: Participated in the Islamic People’s Conference in Khartoum (Sudan). Instigates the foundation of an international Islamic committee.
1993–1996: Host of several TV shows on Islamic issues.
1995: Founder and chairman of the supra-regional social movement “Islamic Committee”.
1999: At an Orthodox–Islamic conference, in St Petersburg, Dzhemal’ puts forward the idea of a strategic union between Islam and Orthodox Christianity within the framework of an anti-Western project.
2001: Organizes several anti-globalization demonstrations in Moscow.
2009: Investigations by the state prosecutor’s office on charges that his website contained extremist material, and the “Islamic Committee” is an extremist group.


Leontiev, Mikhail Vladimirovich (12 October 1958, Moscow)
1979: Degree in “Economy of Work” at the Moscow Plekhanov Institute for Economy.
1979: Apprenticeship as carpenter.
1989: Participation in Sergei Kurginyan’s “Experimental Creative Center”.
1990–1992: Head of the economics section of “Nezavisimaya Gazeta”.
1993–1996: First deputy editor-in-chief, and later editor of the newspaper “Segodnya”
1997–1999: TV host (“Na samom dele” (In reality) and “Den’ sed’moi” (The Seventh Day) at the TV station “TV-tsentr”).
1998: Journalism award “Golden Pen of Russia”.
Since 1999: Host of the TV show “Odnako” (However) at ORT—“Channel One”. From 2000 onwards, host of other shows.
2001–2002: Member of the political council of the “Eurasia” movement
Since 2002: Member of “United Russia”.
2007–2009: Editor-in-chief of the journal “Profile”.
From 2008: Publisher of the journal “Odnako” (However).

Biography: http://lenta.ru/lib/14160196/full.htm

Shevchenko, Maksim Leonardovich (22 February 1966, Moscow)
1990: Graduate from the Moscow Aviation Institute (MAI). Subsequently failed to complete degree in Oriental Studies at the Institute for the Countries of Asia and Africa (MGU).
1992–1995: Head of department of society and culture at the “Pervoe sentyabrya” (First of September) publishing house.
1993–1993: Teacher in Russian and Western European history at an Orthodox High School in Moscow.
2000: Founded the Centre for Strategic Studies on Religion and Politics in the Modern World.
From 2008: Host of TV shows on “Channel One” (including “Sudite sami” (Judge for Yourself), and “V kontekste” (In Context).  

Biographies: http://www.1tv.ru/person/6280; http://echo.msk.ru/guests/7198/