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Nemtsov Waxes Ironic

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Liberal opposition leader Boris Nemtsov now heads a new public group that sports an untranslatable obscenity-tinged name and aims to oppose the State Duma elections through "tough irony," Kommersant reported Monday.

The group, Nakh-Nakh, includes writers Dmitry Bykov and Viktor Shenderovich, environmentalist Yevgenia Chirikova and journalist Olga Romanova, among others, the report said.

The group is calling on voters to spoil their ballots for the December elections, which it expects will be rigged. The name simultaneously hints at exing something out and a rude expression for refusal.

The group may benefit United Russia by chipping away 2 percent to 3 percent of the vote from the Communist and Right Cause parties, Kommersant said.

(MT)

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