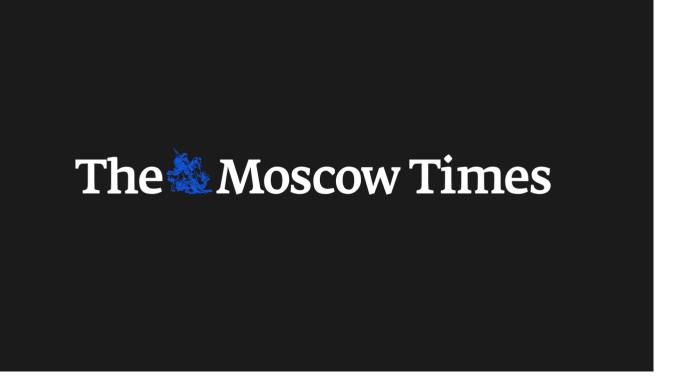


More Than Half of Russians Against Anti-Putin Slogans, Poll Says

By The Moscow Times

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More than half of Russians do not support slogans directed against President Vladimir Putin, a Levada Center poll shows.

Twenty-four percent said they always disapprove of slogans like "Putin must go!" and "Russia without Putin!," and 32 percent said they were more likely not to support them, according to the poll, published Thursday.

Thirty-four percent of Muscovites who took part in the poll said they agree with the slogans, but exactly 50 percent said they don't like them, Interfax reported Friday.

In cities with a population of more than 500,000 people, 58 percent of residents oppose anti-Putin slogans, 19 percent said they are generally in favor of them, while 7 percent said they definitely endorse them. Only 43 percent said they had never heard anti-Putin slogans, 21 percent had heard them once or twice, and only 8 percent said they had heard the slogans on a regular basis.

The poll was conducted from Dec. 20-24 among 1,603 people in 45 regions. The margin of error was 3.4 percent.

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