

Navalny Exposes Putin's 'Frontline' State TV Propagandists

September 28, 2017



[Alexey Navalny Youtube](#)

Russian opposition leader Alexei Navalny's latest video expose on Thursday targeted outspoken state television propagandist Vladimir Solovyov, one of President Vladimir Putin's "frontline soldiers."

Embed:

Vladimir Solovyov is one of two model Russian news anchors who champion Putin's causes at home and abroad, attacking his foreign and domestic opponents.

A study commissioned by the Putin administration once [described](#) Solovyov as a television host who is inclined to use "dramatic tropes borrowed from street theater."

Navalny on Thursday revealed real estate documents showing a summer home overlooking Lake Como in Italy — long-rumored to be Solovyov's — registered in his name.

Navalny said he had made repeated attempts to get Solovyov to confirm or deny his ownership of the property.

Drone footage in Thursday's investigation revealed a nearly 1,000-square-meter three-story lakeside villa with a terrace and a private swimming pool.

Solovyov also allegedly purchased three luxurious apartments in central Moscow at below-market prices in 2004 and 2007, Navalny said.

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In 2008, he bought land in Moscow's suburbs near the Peredelkino Writer's Colony, valued at 400 million rubles (\$68 million), for a white brick home where "maybe his army of Twitter gopniks work," the opposition leader said, using a pejorative term to describe Russia's lower-classes.

Navalny also castigated Solovyov's "hypocrisy" in extolling Putin in the past, while slamming the presidential administration today.

"He changes his shoes in mid-air," Navalny quipped.

Russian media-observers are expecting Solovyov to respond to Navalny's investigation in his popular talk show on Sunday.

Embed:

Это блеск! Какой же понос надо ждать в воскресенье! Квартиры, дача и итальянская вилла Владимира Соловьёва <https://t.co/hsdniHFyS1>

— The New Times (@the_newtimes) [September 28, 2017](#)

[Translation: [@the_newtimes](#) That's brilliant! What a dump can be expected Sunday! Apartments, dacha and Italian villa of Vladimir Solovyov.]

By Thursday evening in Moscow, the video had been viewed nearly half a million times.

Original url:

<https://www.themoscowtimes.com/2017/09/28/navalny-exposes-putin-frontline-state-tv-propagandists-a59107>