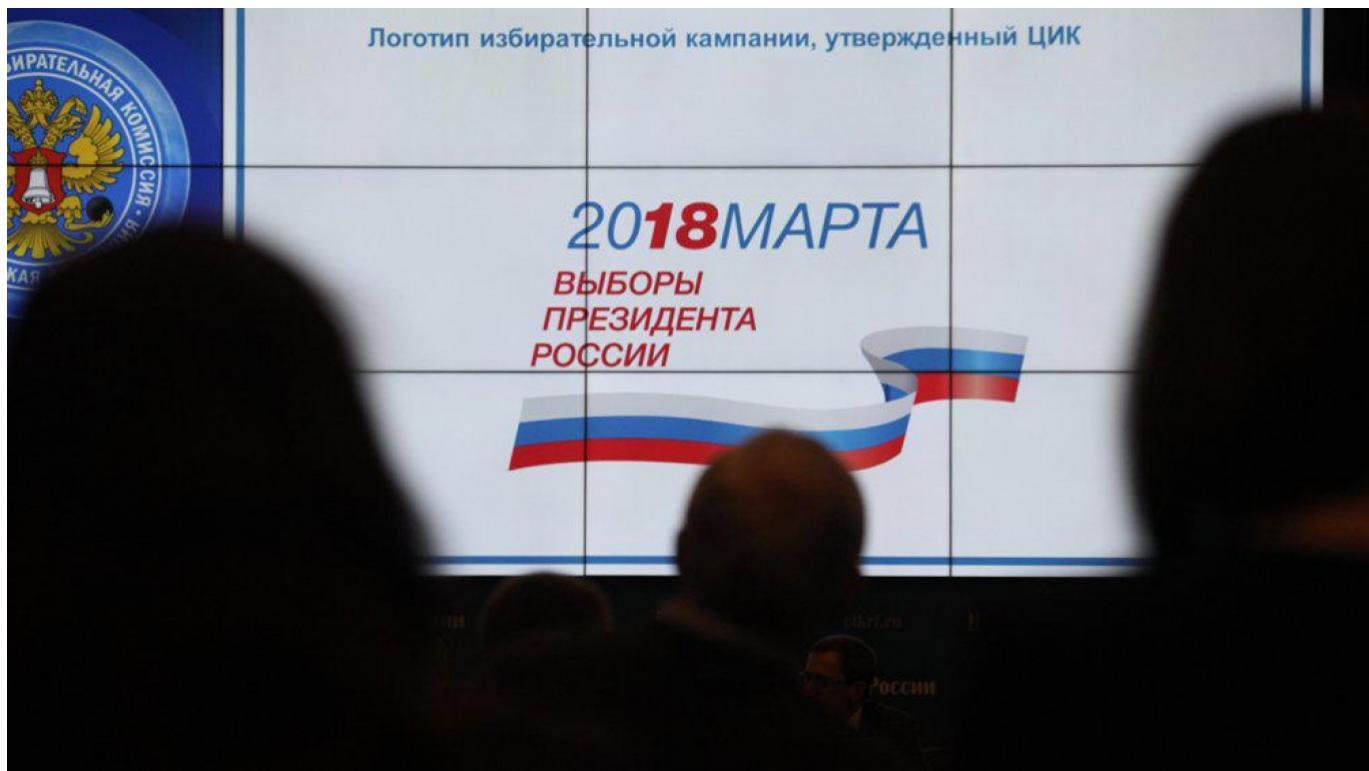


# Russia Blasts U.S. Over Meddling in 2018 Presidential Elections

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Sergei Vedyashkin / Moskva News Agency

Russia's Embassy in the United States has blasted public remarks by U.S. officials over the disqualification of opposition leader Alexei Navalny from the 2018 presidential vote.

Two weeks ago, Russia's Foreign Ministry [accused](#) the U.S. of election meddling after a State Department spokesperson expressed concern over Navalny's exclusion due to a criminal conviction.

Related article: [Russia Accuses U.S. of Election Meddling Over Navalny](#)

The Russian embassy said that allegations about Navalny's exclusion from the election for political reasons are "absolutely groundless and politicized" in a statement [published](#) Tuesday.

“In this regard, we wish to calm the ‘hot heads’ in America: demands to allow someone’s participation in the Russian elections [...] are unacceptable and are deemed as direct interference in our country’s internal affairs,” the Russian Embassy said.

“Suspicious of the upcoming elections being undemocratic are invalid,” it added.

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