

Russian State Channel Urged to Postpone Oliver Stone's Putin Doc Until After Elections

February 14, 2018



Channel One / Youtube

Russia's top election official has asked one of the country's most-watched networks to postpone Oliver Stone's four-part "Putin Interviews" until after the presidential elections.

Putin's challengers Ksenia Sobchak and Grigory Yavlinsky have separately [complained](#) to Russia's Central Elections Commission that broadcasting the "Putin Interviews" amounted to illegal campaigning ahead of the March 18 presidential vote.

Related article: [Oliver Stone Has Launched Putin's Re-Election Campaign](#)

The first two episodes of the documentary [aired](#) on state-television this week, and the remaining two episodes are scheduled for Wednesday and Thursday evening.

"[Channel One] should act with due diligence" to avoid claims of impropriety, the Vedomosti

business daily [quoted](#) the head of Russia's Central Elections Commission, Ella Pamfilova, as saying.

Stone's documentary, nevertheless, does not contain calls to vote or other election-related information, Pamfilova said on Wednesday.

The "Putin Interviews" first aired in Russia in mid-2017. Stone has since [faced criticism](#) for not challenging the Russian president and lobbying softball questions at him.

Original url:

<https://www.themoscowtimes.com/2018/02/14/russian-state-channel-urged-to-postpone-oliver-stone-putin-documentary-until-after-elections-a60506>