

Russian Media Accuse Communist Candidate of Lying About Real Estate Abroad

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Pavel Grudinin **Andrei Lyubimov / Moskva News Agency**

With less than a month to go until Election Day, Russian state-run news outlets have accused the communist presidential candidate of lying about his family's real estate holdings.

Grudinin, 57, was unexpectedly [nominated](#) late last year by the Communist Party to challenge President Vladimir Putin in the March 18 vote. Amid a surge in approval ratings, the successful communist businessman has attracted rising criticism from Russian state media, including for taking a German skiing holiday and failing to disclose foreign bank accounts.

Related article: [Under Grudinin, Russia's Communist Party Gets a Capitalist Makeover](#)

The Life.ru tabloid news website, which made Grudinin the subject of a running investigation over the past two months, claimed Tuesday that Grudinin's son Artyom owns a

property worth 200,000 euros outside the Latvian capital Riga.

Earlier this month, the tabloid [reported](#) that Grudinin's other son Anton owns a two-story house in the Spanish resort of Salou valued at 800,000 euros.

"Every presidential candidate has children, everyone has some property," Grudinin [told](#) the pro-Kremlin Ren-TV channel at the time.

"They are adults, they do business, they have good incomes, but I have nothing to do with that," he added.

A senior Russian Interior Ministry official overseeing migration issues vowed to investigate the legality of Artyom Grudinin's Latvian residence permit, [Life.ru reported](#).

Earlier this month, the Central Election Commission called on Grudinin to provide information about two previously undisclosed Swiss bank accounts.

Another tabloid, Moskovsky Komsomolets, [acknowledged](#) that Grudinin did not formally violate the law but noted that the candidate's initial non-disclosures undermined his trustworthiness.

"So far, we still can't trust Grudinin," the tabloid wrote in a commentary piece on Tuesday.

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