

Russian Police Round Up Navalny Allies Ahead of Inauguration Protests

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Alexei Navalny **Yevgeny Feldman**

Police in several Russian cities have detained supporters of opposition leader Alexei Navalny on the eve of his rallies against President Vladimir Putin's inauguration.

Putin is [scheduled](#) to officially assume his fourth presidential term on Monday, with Navalny calling on supporters to take to the streets in at least [90](#) cities for "He's Not Our Tsar" protests on Saturday.

Navalny supporters have been detained in St. Petersburg, Krasnoyarsk, Tambov, Krasnodar and Cheboksary, Interfax [reported](#) Friday, citing activists and their social media pages.

Related article: [Pro-Telegram Libertarians to March in Moscow](#)

Activists in St. Petersburg, Krasnoyarsk, Cheboksary and Krasnodar have been reportedly held on charges of violating public assembly laws and resisting arrest.

Navalny volunteers have also been apprehended and eventually released in Kemerovo and Ryazan, according to Interfax.

While authorities have [refused](#) to authorize rallies in Moscow, St. Petersburg, Ryazan, Yekaterinburg, Kemerovo and other cities, opposition figures remain committed to marching Saturday.


Punk band Pussy Riot referred to the action as “a lil anti-putin walk” through city centers, the band posted to Twitter Friday.

Embed:

tomorrow we - hopefully with thousands of russians - will go for a lil anti-putin walk, we're going to show up in the centers of our cities.

it's a walk for democracy, fair elections, for the freedom of internet, freedom to create art, speak out and be wild.

ka-boom[#action](#)

—  (@pussyrrriot) [4 мая 2018 г.](#)

“We believe we have the right to march on Tverskaya Ulitsa [...] If we’re not second-class people, we too have the right to march,” Navalny [said](#) in his weekly YouTube live stream on Thursday.

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