

# Moscow Activists Mark Lenin's Birthday With Calls to Take Down Statue

April 22, 2019



**decomunization / Vkontakte**

Anti-Communist activists have made a visual call to take down Moscow's largest surviving statue of Lenin on the Soviet leader's 149th birthday.

Several republics of the former Soviet Union have [dismantled](#) and replaced Lenin statues since the USSR collapsed in 1991. Russian politicians have continued to [debate](#) whether to bury Lenin's body or preserve it in its mausoleum on Red Square.

**Related article:** [Communists' Religious Feelings Were Violated by Proposal to Replace Lenin's Body, Party Official Says](#)

"Subject to dismantlement as part of decommunization," read the banner placed on the statue's base on Monday.

The banner was taken down 10 minutes after it was installed, the [Dozhd TV](#) news channel

reported.

Last year, a fight [erupted](#) between members of one of Russia's communist parties and local municipal politicians over proposals to move his statue on Kaluzhskaya Ploshchad.

Conservative lawmaker Natalia Poklonskaya joined several high-profile figures in calling for Lenin's body to be buried, [describing](#) it as "a relic that's pulling us behind" on Monday.

Original url:

<https://www.themoscowtimes.com/2019/04/22/moscow-activists-mark-lenins-birthday-with-calls-to-take-down-statue-a65330>