

# Russian Police Detain Navalny Aide Over Nationwide Pension Protests

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Leonid Volkov **Roman Demyanenko / TASS**

Police in Moscow have detained a senior aide to Russian opposition leader Alexei Navalny on Tuesday for mass rallies against unpopular pension reforms last fall.

More than [150](#) protesters, including [50](#) Navalny supporters, were detained during nationwide protests on Sept. 9, 2018, against President Vladimir Putin's plan to [increase](#) the pension age. Putin signed the pension reform bill in October despite the protests and declining polling numbers.

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Leonid Volkov [tweeted](#) early on Tuesday that he had been taken to a police station without explanation. Less than an hour later, he [wrote](#) that he was charged with violating public assembly rules during the anti-pension reform protests.

The charges carry jail time of up to 30 days.

“We’ve been waiting for you,” Navalny [quoted](#) police as saying during Volkov’s apprehension.

Volkov is a 2018 Yale University world fellow.

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