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INDEPENDENT NEWS FROM RUSSIA

Bernie Sanders' Viral Inauguration Memes Arrive in Russia

January 22, 2021

Ice-fishing with the boys. **ChristopherJM / Twitter**

In one mittened, cross-legged snapshot, U.S. Senator Bernie Sanders effortlessly stole the show at the inauguration of President Joe Biden.

Memes placing the former presidential candidate sitting with his cozy mittens in every possible location — from iconic pop culture moments to famous snapshots from history — have swept the internet.

It's no surprise, then, that they've spread to the Russian-speaking side of the internet, where users picture what Bernie might look like as a regular Russian grandpa.

We rounded up some of our favorites:

While President Vladimir Putin takes a shirtless Epiphany dip, bundled-up Bernie stays warm in the freezing temperatures.

Embed:

> Если бы экс-кандидат в президенты США Берни Сандерс приехал не к Байдену, а к Путину.#berniesmittens pic.twitter.com/r2ID2XGThf
>
> — Кремлевский пул РИА (@Kremlinpool_RIA) January 21, 2021

Standing by on *shashlik* (barbecue) duty.

Embed:

> Sorry, I had to. pic.twitter.com/PKyC2oKrNc
>
> — Liana Aghajanian (@LianaAgh) January 21, 2021

An unexpected cameo in Alexei Navalny's depiction of the now-infamous hookah lounge of "Putin's Palace."

Embed:

> pic.twitter.com/sNWyNhIzEA
>
> — Brian Taylor (@bdtaylor_SU) January 20, 2021

Sanders fits right in at the Russian makeshift street markets, a leftover from the Soviet era.

We always wondered who that mysterious figure was in Ilya Repin's famous painting.

Embed:

> Bernie Sanders and the Reply of the Zaporizhian Cossacks pic.twitter.com/xTGOtQquxV
>
> — Natalia Antonova (@NataliaAntonova) January 21, 2021

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