

Russian Ex-Deputy Prime Minister Prikhodko Dies at 64

January 26, 2021



Sergei Prikhodko [Kremlin.ru](https://kremlin.ru)

Former Russian Deputy Prime Minister and First Deputy Chief of Staff Sergei Prikhodko has died aged 64 after a long illness, Russian media [reported](#) and the government confirmed Tuesday.

Prikhodko had been a trusted foreign policy adviser to Russia's leaders for more than two decades before he became embroiled in a scandal seen as evidence of suspected interference in the 2016 U.S. presidential elections.

Related article: [Surkov Replaced by Trusty Technocrat](#)

A 2018 video investigation by opposition leader Alexei Navalny [alleged](#) that Prikhodko received information from oligarch Oleg Deripaska aboard his yacht in August 2016 that may have been disclosed by candidate Donald Trump's then-campaign chief Paul Manafort. Deripaska denied that he served as a conduit between the Trump campaign and the Kremlin.

Prihodko was previously targeted by Navalny in 2013 for allegedly owning land that cost [five times](#) his official salary earned over the previous four years.

He served three Russian presidents, beginning as then-President Boris Yeltsin's foreign policy adviser in 1997 and playing similar roles under presidents Vladimir Putin and Dmitry Medvedev.

During his tenure, experts described Prihodko as an experienced technocrat and a strong manager with a diplomatic style dating back to his career in the Soviet and Russian embassies in former Czechoslovakia in the late 1980s and early 1990s.

Three months after Navalny's 2018 video investigation, Prihodko and a handful of other Kremlin veterans found themselves [without a cabinet post](#) in Putin's fourth and latest presidential term.

The Kremlin [said](#) Tuesday that Putin had sent his condolences to Prihodko's family.

"The president is deeply sorry for this loss," Putin's spokesman said in a daily briefing with reporters.

The cause of Prihodko's death has not been disclosed. According to the Kommersant business daily, which broke the story on Prihodko's death, the former deputy prime minister had suffered from Lou Gehrig's disease.

Original url:

<https://www.themoscowtimes.com/2021/01/26/russian-ex-deputy-prime-minister-prihodko-dies-at-64-a72730>