

Russian Election Authority Says Found Flaws in 15% of Pro-Peace Nadezhdin's Signatures

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Boris Nadezhdin submits signatures of endorsement to Russian election authorities. **Maxim Shipenkov / EPA / TASS**

Russia's Central Election Commission (CEC) has found flaws in more than 15% of the signatures of endorsement collected by pro-peace presidential hopeful Boris Nadezhdin, his campaign team [said](#) Monday.

Nadezhdin, who has emerged as the leading pro-peace voice ahead of the March presidential election, submitted some 105,000 signatures to CEC for review last week.

But on Friday, election officials said they had uncovered flaws in the endorsements that "elicit surprise" and invited the presidential hopeful to review the documents at a meeting on Monday.

"A CEC working group informed us that [they found] flaws in 15% of the signatures I

submitted on Jan. 31,” Nadezhdin wrote on the Telegram messaging app.

Related article: [‘Hope for Change’ or ‘Kremlin Spoiler’: Who Is Boris Nadezhdin, the Presidential Hopeful Uniting Pro-Peace Russians?](#)

Nadezhdin said his campaign team plans to dispute the errors found by election officials.

If they can prove that 4,500 of the 9,209 signatures claimed to contain various flaws can be proven valid, he would be eligible to run in the March presidential election, he said.

Russian election law requires prospective candidates running from a party without representation in parliament to collect 100,000 signatures of endorsement.

“If the Central Election Commission refuses to register me as a candidate, then I'll dispute it with the Supreme Court,” Nadezhdin said.

A final list of registered presidential candidates is expected on Wednesday.

An unidentified source in Nadezhdin's campaign team later [told](#) the 7x7 regional news outlet that the flaws found by election officials ranged from incorrect personal information provided by signatories to a lack of notarization on some endorsement papers.

“We disagree with the decision made by the [CEC] working group,” his campaign told journalists on Monday.

“The whole world saw that we collected signatures honestly.”

Nadezhdin, who hopes to run as a candidate from the Civic Initiative party, has seen a surge of support over the past month.

Long lines formed outside his campaign offices both inside Russia and abroad as thousands of pro-peace Russians hoped to safely express their opposition to the war in Ukraine by endorsing his election bid.

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